The Middlebury Campus

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Liebowitz opens door to students

By Derek Schlickeisen
News Editor

As college administrators across the country work to increase their visibility among students, President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz has added more open office hours to the eight or nine student lunches held each semester. Liebowitz and his staff say the meetings, which may soon include other senior administrators, provide the College with more unfiltered feedback from students than it would otherwise receive.

"I like to hear things directly whenever possible," Liebowitz said. "I have found students to be remarkably frank in letting me know what is on their minds — what they oppose, and what they would like to see the College do."

The face-to-face meetings come after other strategies for gathering input, including several sparsely-attended "town hall" meetings last year, proved unappealing to students. In particular, open panel discussions with College and town officials last January failed to attract significant crowds.

In contrast, students who have met with Liebowitz this semester said they left with an improved sense of access to the College's administration.

"He seemed to genuinely value the opinion of the students," said Celey Schumer '09. "He was fairly candid, which was nice."

Kristen Ward '08 agreed, explaining that the opportunity to meet with Liebowitz personally changed her opinion of his attitude toward student input.

"I did not have the impression that President Liebowitz cared that much about student opinions and concerns before the lunch," said Kristen Ward '08. "Now, I believe he definitely cares about student voices."

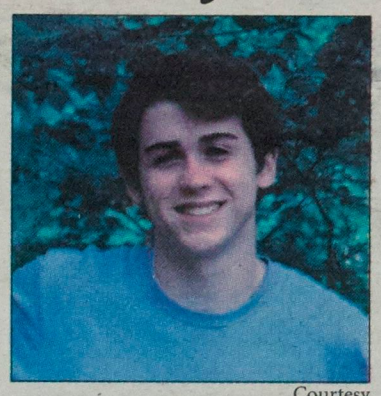
Participants say that while Liebowitz has most commonly sought input on two issues — the role of the Commons on campus and the College's changing social scene — he has proven receptive on other topics as well. In particular, as Vice President for Communications Mike McKenna confirmed,

See President, page 4

Ted Sullivan

Racing to the Top
In the closest finish in the history of the NCAA Division III Cross Country Championships, the Middlebury women's team edged out Amherst to take the top prize. The Panthers were paced by Alexander Krieg '09, who finished eighth overall. Krieg, Andrea Giddings '07 and Erin Archard '07 earned All-American honors while Jimmy Butcher '08 was honored with All-American status on the men's side. For the full story, turn to page 28.

Students stunned at loss of Vaughn '10



Courtesy

By Ben Salkowe
Editor in Chief

Last August, just a month before Todd Swisher '10 was to begin his Middlebury career as a first-year, he received an e-mail from a kid in Mt. Juliet, Tennessee. They were going to be roommates, the friendly e-mail said. Swisher had not found the site to check housing assignments, so he took the kid's word for it and wrote back.

That is how Swisher met Norbert Vaughn '10, his roommate for the first five weeks of the semester. And that eagerness to meet others and hear their stories is how smiley, 18-year-old Vaughn began endearing himself to the Middlebury community over the short time he was able to spend here.

"He seemed extremely friendly right off the bat, and he had a way of being sincere in all forms," said Swisher about Vaughn's letters, conversations and even his freestyle rap.

"He really liked conversation and talking to people. I remember being amazed at his ability to engage others," said Swisher. "A lot of

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Alcohol visits to Parton decline

By Scott Greene
News Editor

Alcohol-related visits to Parton Health Center have dropped to the level of two years ago after last year's record highs. Overall, Parton has seen a decrease in the total number of medical cases despite a steady increase in visits to the Counseling and Human Relations Center over the past five years, according to Health Center administrators.

The medical staff at both Parton Health Center and Porter Hospital has treated 56 drunk students so far this term, compared with 72 at the same time last year. Of the 56, only five were not admitted at either of the two locations. A breakdown of these visits by class year reveals that first-years and sophomores account for 70 percent of the total, with 24 and 16 visits respectively.

"First of all, last year we had the highest number of visits to the Health Center that we have ever had," Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson said. "This year's number is more in line with other years."

Administrators were cautious, however, not to read too much into the change.

"Those numbers don't indicate or prove anything to us as far as what the drinking behaviors are out on the campus," Associate Director of the Health Center Terry Jenny said. "There's virtually no correlation between the two."

Though any decrease is good, according to Dean of the College Tim Spears, such numbers prove more indicative of student behavior if measured over the course of an entire year.

"That kind of record is not statistically persuasive or significant until we can look at the whole year as a package," Spears said. "If that

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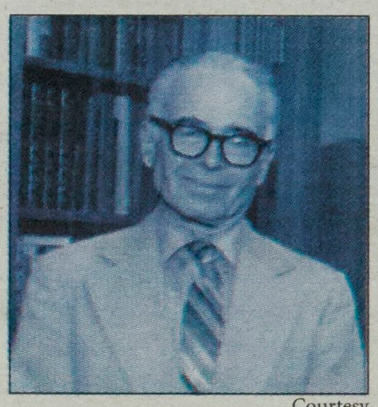
Midd mourns beloved professor



Courtesy

By Kathryn Flagg
Associate Editor

Professor Emeritus of Economics David K. Smith '42 passed away last Wednesday, marking the College's loss of a great mind and a good friend. His colleagues, former students and many friends and neighbors will remember the native Vermonter not only as a great scholar, but also as a compassionate teacher and an always-cheerful friend.

After graduating as an economics major from the College in the early '40s, "D.K." Smith served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He earned his master's degree in business administration, as well as a master's and doctorate in economics at Harvard University, and returned to the College's Economics Department in 1950. Smith taught for 37 years and led

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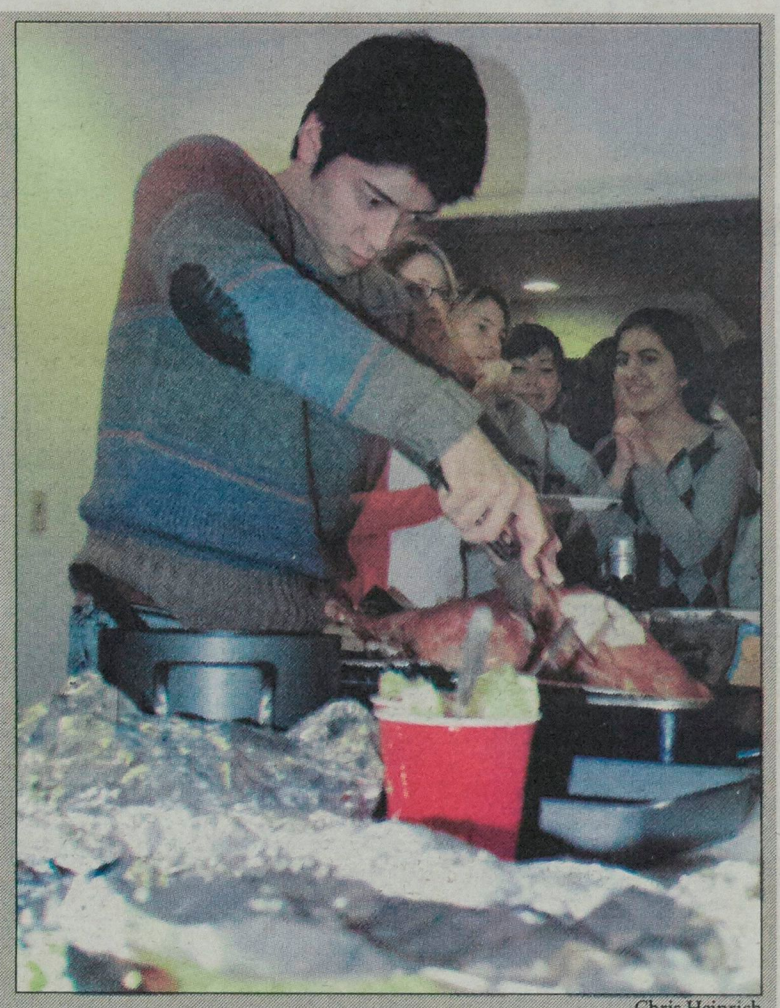

Chris Heinrich

Gobbling an Early Turkey
Brainerd students celebrated an early Thanksgiving at Palmer House on Nov. 19. Proctor, Ross and Atwater Dining Halls also helped students get into the holiday spirit with traditional Thanksgiving meals.

ON THE INSIDE

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See if the Musical Players' "Urinetown" made a splash on the arts scene, page 20

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RISING FROM THE ASHES
Want to know if "Cinders" set Wright Theater on fire? Read the review, page 18

MIDDBRIEFS

BY KELLY JANIS AND SCOTT GREENE

Midd adds masters degree in Chinese to Language Schools

This summer, the College's Language Schools will enjoy a much-lauded addition as fifteen students pursue a Master of Arts degree in Chinese, widely considered one of the most increasingly useful focuses of language study. Students have the option of acquiring their degree either during four summers at Middlebury, or two summers on the Vermont campus coupled with an academic year in between spent at the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

Michael E. Geisler, dean of Language Schools and Schools Abroad, was enthusiastic about the first new masters' degree program adopted by the College in 23 years.

"We had been considering the introduction of a Chinese graduate program for some time, but recent events — increased importance of China as an economic power and an important geostrategic partner of the United States — make a powerful case for moving ahead with this now," Geisler said. "Chinese is one of the 'critical' languages identified by President Bush as one of the areas in which we need to invest more educational resources."

"The Middlebury Language Schools, with their reputation for excellence in language education, are in a better position to address this need than anybody else," Geisler added. "We already have an excellent intensive undergraduate language program in place. We can build on this infrastructure to move quickly in addressing a pressing national need."

Admissions begins talks to select early class of 2011

The Admissions Office has begun deliberations on 678 received Early Decision 1 (ED 1) applications, a five percent rise from a year ago, according to Dean of Admissions Robert Clagett.

"I'm not positive that is a final figure yet, but it is probably close," Clagett said, adding that applications from international students may arrive soon.

As admission officers sit down to deliberate, Clagett reaffirmed the College's commitment to individualized admissions policies. A recent civil rights suit filed against Princeton University by Yale first-year Jian Li has sparked debate about the role race plays in admissions. Li, who is Asian, is claiming that Princeton did not admit him because of his race. Clagett is skeptical of the suit.

"This suit detracts from the all-important recognition that selective colleges admit students, not groups," he said. "In addition, it is impossible for us to know anything about the details of this student's candidacy to Princeton. To me, the fact that the same student was admitted to Yale provides further evidence that selective college admissions remain an art, not a science, and that is as it should be."

While some colleges may have specific policies regarding race, Clagett urged that its important to evaluate applicants on a case-by-case basis, rather than applying different standards across the board.

"Our approach to this at Middlebury is very much on an individualized basis, as it is for any applicant, regardless of skin color," said Clagett.

Symposium explores issue of wrongly imprisoned

From Nov. 16 to Nov. 19, the student organization Incarceration in Question hosted the symposium "Double Standards of Justice: A Weekend Workshop on Race, Class and the Death Penalty." The workshop was inspired by the belief that the nation's criminal justice system is imbued with innumerable inequities, functions as an inappropriate bandage for a variety of social ills and is concerned more heavily with economic gain than with veritable justice. Each of the symposium's events was intended to provoke thought and spark dialogue pertaining to issues of race and class and their relevance to wrongful imprisonment.

The workshop kicked off with a screening of "The Farm: Life Inside Angola Prison, USA," a film which tracks the trials and tribulations of six inmates in an infamous Louisiana prison. On Nov. 17, the organization sponsored a discussion entitled "A Structural View of Race in the Criminal Justice System," followed by a keynote address by Darby Tillis — a man who spent over nine years on death row prior to his exoneration from a crime of which he was not guilty — and an art show and silent auction. Nov. 18 consisted of a flurry of workshops and panel discussions with sponsors like the Prison Moratorium Project and The Texas Death Penalty Abolition Movement.

The workshops on Nov. 19 included an exercise exploring a hypothetical world devoid of prisons and police. The symposium concluded with a candlelight vigil on the steps of Mead Chapel as a show of solidarity with the unjustly imprisoned. In publicizing the event, organizers drew upon a quotation from Aboriginal artist and activist Lilla Watson: "If you have come to help me, then you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together."

CORRECTION

The Nov. 16 issue of *The Campus* incorrectly reported that the College administration had agreed to create an endowed professorship that would be named after a figure supported by students. The administration has not agreed to the creation of such a professorship.

Committees tackle theses, staffing

By Jessie Singleton
Staff Writer

The Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) held its first joint meeting of the year with the Student Educational Affairs Committee (SEAC) on Nov. 20 to move forward on the agenda for the academic year. Reports from the closed-door meeting indicate that the joint-committee focused on how to begin evaluating the current academic situation, such as senior work and staff hiring, and recommending adjustments to meet the needs of the College's Strategic Plan.

According to Acting Dean of the Faculty Sunder Ramaswamy, departmental staffing requests largely dominated the EAC's fall term agenda, leaving little space for student input or involvement. The impetus for this significant task comes from the College's Strategic Plan, which calls for the addition of new faculty positions over the next eight years while maintaining the current size of the student body. The Strategic Plan supports hiring enough faculty to provide a large selection of courses for students while allowing each faculty member to teach smaller, more focused courses and maintain a healthy work-life balance.

Every year after the EAC concludes its fall logistical obligations, the EAC calls on the SGA-appointed student counterpart to participate in forthcoming deliberations about all-things academic on behalf of the students. After addressing grade inflation last year, the focus this year is on academic elements of the Strategic Plan.

In preparation for the meeting, Frances Kammeraad '08, the chair of the SEAC, researched the ways that overlap schools such as Amherst and Williams handle issues ranging from distribution requirements to senior work. The SEAC took direction from the guidelines for academic improvement found in the Strategic Plan when deciding what information from other institutions to research and compare with the College's current operating model. These include reevaluating the 12-year-old distribution requirements, restructuring major requirements as the emphasis shifts within each field of study, balancing the proliferation of double and triple majors and student creativity with the cost of staffing all the courses. The College is also exploring the possibility of a "lab science requirement" that would, as Dean Ramaswamy stated, "increase the analytical literacy of Middlebury Students for the 21st century" and is considering different options for meaningful engagement of senior work.

The debate surrounding senior work, for example, stems from the discrepancies between departmental requirements and options for seniors to pursue advanced independent study. History and math majors are required to complete senior work but political science majors are not eligible to write a thesis unless they have a 3.33 GPA in their major. Althea Webber '08, a member of the SEAC, believes that this threshold is too high.

"Because of the high GPA requirement combined with the difficulty of the department, the number of seniors writing theses in Political Science is lower than in other departments." As a history major required to write theses both junior and senior years, Webber believes that "all students should be able to pursue some form of specialized independent study by the time they reach the fourth year of their major." This debate is representative of the type of research these committees will explore and is indicative of the need for such an exploration.

Following their preliminary discussion last Monday, both committees reached the conclusion that because these issues do not exist in a vacuum, the correlation between the two requires the committees to move forward using a more holistic approach in determining strategic improvements. Kammeraad said that "rather than looking at each issue individually, the EAC and the SEAC would both like to look at everything more comprehensively. Both committees feel that many issues are interrelated and that if all are addressed within the same year in a comprehensive way, large improvements can be made."

With the semester coming to an end soon, time is not on their side. The EAC would like to complete its study and bring recommendations to the faculty at large sometime after Winter Term. However, Ramaswamy admits that the date might be pushed back as far as March. In order to bring all of the necessary information together in a manageable and cohesive fashion, the EAC must to go through two subcommittees, one to evaluate teaching resources and the other to recommend curricular changes. The subcommittees will use the weekly EAC meeting as an opportunity to share their findings and coordinate their progress.

The SEAC will soon solicit a formal opinion from the student body through a campus-wide survey.

Jenks-Jay takes on new post

By Lisie Mehlman
Managing Editor

Nan Jenks-Jay, who has served as Middlebury College's Director of Environmental Affairs since 1997 and has, throughout her tenure as director, played a pivotal role in the College's receipt of eight awards for its commendable and oft-emulated environmental policies, will become the Dean of Environmental Affairs. The newly-established position and Jenks-Jay's ascension to that position were announced in an e-mail to the College community sent by President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz on Monday.

Liebowitz explained that the creation of this position "reflects the College's institutional and academic commitment to the environment, as well as Nan's leadership and expertise in the field." Jenks-Jay, in addition to gracefully managing her prior responsibilities as Director of Environmental Affairs, teaches an environmental studies seminar, has served on external review committees for ten college and university environmental programs and has served on state governmental boards.

Liebowitz credited Jenks-Jay as being instrumental in integrating "sustainable design and construction practices" on campus and in planning and implementing the "College's carbon reduction initiative. Her leadership was integral to the development of the new Hillcrest Environmental Center as a base for environmental learning and leadership," he wrote.

Jenks-Jay is both looking forward to this experience and excited about the new challenges and opportunities that the position entails. She said, "The new position [requires a] commitment to engaging Middlebury College's undergraduate program, in which I am already involved. Additionally, [it requires a commitment to involving] the graduate and special programs, including the Language Schools, Schools Abroad, Bread Loaf School of English, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and the Monterey Institute of International Studies in the broader concept of creating a greater environmental community while recognizing the individual and unique identities of each."

Her assumption of the new Deanship means that Jenks-Jay will now co-chair the Environmental Council rather than chairing it as she has done in the past, "thereby sharing this important role with other individuals at the College who have so much to offer and who can introduce new energy and infuse new ideas," she explained. She will continue to host the Environmental Retreat, an annual event during which faculty and staff "discuss issues that are relevant to enriching the learning experience for students," and much of her efforts will now "focus on the new capital campaign," she said.

When asked about potential challenges she might face in her new role as Dean, Jenks-Jay said that "Middlebury already excels in areas related to the environment. The challenge will be to bring this good work that is being done here by so many talented individuals to an even higher level with the infrastructure and support appropriate to ensure it staying power. That's the goal and it will be a challenge as Middlebury is already regarded as having a nationally acclaimed academic ES program and the stellar campus sustainability programs have become a model to colleges and universities across the country."

That the College is a trailblazer in environmental policy is no surprise – it is the recipient of the Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Merit Award as well as the Vermont Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence, among others. Jenks-Jay believes that "higher education, as a major sector of society, can have a significant and influential role in accelerating the pace [of creating a more environmentally sustainable world] that is necessary."

In the coming years, she seeks to enhance and expand the environmental learning community so that every sector of the College, and each individual, contributes to the mission of educating students to be contributing citizens of the global community.

More specifically, her goals include continuing the shift to more renewable and clean energy sources and achieving carbon reduction to meet the College's current goals endorsed by the trustees. While she stated "that Middlebury will be leading the way and inspiring many to follow," she also acknowledged that accomplishing these goals "will not be without its challenges."

Still, Jenks-Jay said she has no reservations about her new role on campus. "Middlebury is well positioned to create catalytic change in environmental education and sustainability," she said. "With such strong philosophical and programmatic support from the trustees, president and senior administration, there is no telling what can be achieved with the administrative commitment, stellar faculty, dedicated staff, external partners and innovative students that are assembled here."

LIS sees smoother registration process

By Zamir Ahmed
News Editor

Student course registration for the spring semester has been running smoothly on Banner Web, according to Library and Information Service (LIS) staff members, after a slow server and performance issues frustrated students in previous years.

"In terms of how registration has gone this year, from our perspective it's gone pretty well," said Area Director of Resource Development and Services Carrie Rampp. "It was a little slower the first couple of days but I think since then it's been running pretty well."

Course registration has been conducted using Banner Web since the spring of 2003. Administrators acknowledged that the three-and-a-half-year learning curve is in part responsible for this year's smoother process.

"I'd say that that plays a significant part in it, knowing how the system works and having worked with it for a number of years," said Chris Norris, manager of database applications and systems, when asked about the reason for the improvement in the registration process. "Some of the tuning on the backend, we've become fairly adept at that so if a potential problem starts to creep up, we have sort of a tool box of tools that we could use to figure out what's really going on and we can adjust if necessary. We haven't really had to do that this registration period. Things have been going very smoothly."

Course registration did undergo a change in process this term as the Registrar's Office added more days to registration in order to create days for Febs to register separately from the regular admissions class. In the past, Febs and "Regs" of the same class year registered at the same time.

Marie Horbar

Banner Web administrators have noticed a smoother registration period after more than three years of frustration on the part of students.

The College's use of Banner Web is continuing to expand, as departments and offices approach LIS with interest in using the software to assist in their administrative work. This year, LIS is aiming to have room draw be administered completely online using Banner Web after only block draw was run through the software last year.

"From the Dean of Student Affairs' perspective, it went extremely well last year," said Norris. "Students seemed to get housing choices, their preferences that they were looking for based on points, rankings and other things. This year, we're looking at doing the singles and doubles online … and we anticipate it will go as smoothly, if not more smoothly, than last year."

"Long ago there were always dreams of having online room draw," said Rampp. "A lot of schools have done it for a long time and for quite a while we thought it might not be possible because there were so many rules."

Online room draw will allow students to enter into Banner Web their request for rooms by a certain deadline before the process is run, thereby eliminating the importance of the time that students select rooms during live draw.

"Hopefully that will take away some of the stress," said Rampp.

Banner Web serves a number of functions for the College, assisting in the administration of students, faculty and staff. Students use the software most common for applications such as the tracking of student employment hours, student financial accounts and course registration. Banner Web is also utilized by the admissions office to track applicant characteristics, such as athletic recruiting interest, and is used to process or administer online applications and financial aid applications.

While the College does use most of the mechanisms installed in the software by Banner Web's vendor, Sungard, LIS has added its own components to meet administrative needs, such as storing student mailbox combinations and the new online room draw process. However, not all of the programs offered by the software are utilized by the College. While tests have been made of the course evaluation module of Banner Web using the Language Schools, no plans are in place to utilize the tool for undergraduates.

While much of what Banner Web does is not seen by students, the software plays a large role in supporting the critical functions of the College, which continues to grow as new components are added as is needed by the administration and students.

Friends remember first-year student

Continued from page 1

my memories are when we both were going to sleep, but we couldn't do it because we kept talking."

Catharine Wright, lecturer and tutor in writing, said her first introduction to Vaughn was his arriving late to her first-year seminar because he had been out in the hall talking to a young woman.

He was a funny figure," said Wright. "He was a little of this and a little of that, a little bit of the 'Got to keep your eye on him 'cause he might pull something over on you' and on the other hand just absolutely right there, seeing into something or through something."

Academically, Vaughn's friends and educators said he was a standout student. Coming from a math and science background at Pope John Paul II High School in Hendersonville, Tenn., Vaughn took Middlebury as an opportunity for new studies. He enrolled in an Arabic course he came to love, as well as Wright's first-year seminar on stories and rituals.

"His parents said one of the reasons he went to Middlebury was that he had a goal to challenge himself and not jump straight into the science stuff that he had been doing," said Sam Shoutis '08, Vaughn's junior counselor on first floor Stewart. "He wanted to explore and broaden his horizons."

Vaughn's intelligence and humor made him a witty contributor to his classes.

"His initial presence walking into a room was kind of quiet, but he had a strong voice in the class and he always spoke, and he spoke whether he had done the reading or not!" said Wright with a smile. "I mean, he was sometimes the one who would come in, and I knew he hadn't read something, and yet he would often pick up on something we were talking about and say something really useful to the class discussion. He was very, very smart."

Wright remembered that Vaughn would casually suggest creative research projects and papers in class when an interesting question was raised.

"I was always saying 'Yes, Norbert, that would be a good research project,' and everyone in the room would look like, 'Oh, Norbert, thanks a lot for coming up with another research project which we're not going to do because we already have a ton of work!'" said Wright.

But even more than academics, Vaughn loved meeting his peers, hearing their stories and getting to know them outside class.

"He really met so many people in the time he was here," said Swisher. Swisher said Vaughn was a creative person who went so far as to write rhymes and songs for people and even freestyle "pretty well."

"He was very into the 80s dance, and I saw him walk into my hall wearing the shortest shorts that I could imagine," said Shoutis. "They were girls' shorts he'd borrowed from a girl upstairs, and the first thing he said was, 'You gotta have balls to wear these shorts.'"

Although friends say he did not complain of headaches in the beginning of the semester, during fall break Vaughn went to the health center with severe migraines. College staff sent him to Porter where CAT scans found a brain tumor was causing his symptoms. Vaughn next went to Fletcher Allen in Burlington for a procedure that drained fluid from his skull so he could travel. Vaughn withdrew from Middlebury and his parents took him back home for surgery to remove the tumor at Vanderbilt Medical Center.

All the while, friends said, he remained optimistic and planned to come back to Middlebury in January.

"Even when he had to go home he was trying to keep up with Arabic," said Shoutis. "He was attending a class at Vanderbilt just to sit in and try to keep up with the Arabic."

At Middlebury, Swisher said students did not realize the risks of the surgery Vaughn needed to receive.

"I don't think anyone really considered what the implications of the surgery were," said Swisher. Immediately after the procedure, Swisher said, students heard the operation had been successful.

But several days after the surgery, Vaughn died from complications related to the procedure. He passed just before 11 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 15, with his mother, father, sister and priest at his side.

When his friends back at Middlebury found out, the news was devastating.

"It was a shock," said Shoutis. "Everyone was really just a little bit off for a few days and didn't know how to handle everything right away. There was a gathering for all of Stewart the night we found out that he had passed away. I think that helped everyone but for the next couple days, everyone was stressed out and having trouble focusing."

"I just went for a jog to clear my head and tire myself out," said Swisher.

President Liebowitz sent an e-mail to the community to report Vaughn's death, and the College paid for Shoutis, Swisher and two other students to travel to Tennessee for the service.

"It was really good for us to be there, and it meant a lot to the family," said Swisher.

Vaughn is survived by his mother, father, grandfather and an older sister who graduated last year from Harvard.

However brief his time at Middlebury was, students remembered Vaughn as someone who both shaped and was shaped by Middlebury College.

"He was interested in what people had to say and getting to know them as a person no matter what," said Shoutis. "And he was always an enthusiastic person, he always had a smile on his face and was fun to be around."

"He was very happy and he loved Midd," said Swisher. "He came back to our room every day just exhausted because he did so much."

OVERSEAS BRIEFING

By Hannah Washington

PORTUGAL — Coming to Portugal, I had no idea that I would be stepping out of one version of "Harry Potter" world into another. We're all familiar with the general perception of Middlebury, complete with its Commons and Quidditch teams in rural Vermont, as a version of reality that we can compare to Hogwarts. Imagine my surprise when I arrived in Coimbra, a city of 100,000 people and 25,000 students, to find that it, in its own way, is perhaps even more like Hogwarts than Middlebury.

Portugal is an old country, with more recorded history than exists in the Americas. As history goes hand-in-hand with traditions, it should not be surprising that even everyday life over here is replete with foreign cultural traditions that the natives take for granted. I came expecting that. What surprised me was just how vibrant academic traditions are here.

The Universidade de Coimbra was founded in the 13th century. Its over 700 years of operation have allowed ample time for its traditions to form and stick. One that I noticed after I arrived was the *traje académico*, the academic uniform. Unlike our concept of uniforms in academic institutions, these uniforms are worn voluntarily, as a sign of pride, by upperclassmen. Complete with jacket, vest, collared-shirt, tie, slacks (skirts for girls) and cape, it looks as if these kids stepped out of a Harry Potter movie. They tend to wander in clumps — where there's one kid in the academic garb, there are usually at least a half-dozen others.

Annual city- and college-wide celebrations also seem to be the norm. The most recent was the Festa das Latas, or Latada, that consisted of a week-long celebration with nightly dancing, concerts and student craziness. Even though many students were staying out all night, classes continued as usual until the final day of the *festa*. Classes were cancelled that afternoon and, as is the tradition, everyone gathered in the Praça, as a parade of *caloiros* (first-years), dressed in ridiculous outfits by their upperclassmen *madrinhas* or *padrinhos* ("godparents"), herded themselves down to the Rio Mondego to be "baptized" in the river as university students.

As it turns out, most of the academic traditions here are related. They all descend from *Praxe*, a word that comes from the Latin "praxis," meaning "custom." The idea of a first-year orientation like we have at Middlebury is nonexistent in Portugal. Instead, upperclassmen of each *faculdade* have almost complete control over the integration of *caloiros* into their programs. In many ways, this seems like a good idea: You enter college with upperclassmen friends who take care of you and make sure you know what you need to do. It also allows first-years to take part in traditions that are centuries old, nourishing a feeling of school pride.

But it isn't all good. Though *Praxe* is often good-natured, it can also be degrading and, on occasion, violent. By the code of *Praxe*, *caloiros* have to do as the *doutores* — the upperclassmen — instruct them, unless they state explicitly that they do not "follow *Praxe*," by which they relinquish the guidance from upperclassmen. After the first year, students have the right to wear the *traje académico* and to subject the following year's first-years to the same humiliations and hazing, while simultaneously giving the guidance with which their experience at the university has endowed them. The motto that I see in the city is *Dura praxis, sed praxis*. *Praxe* is tough, but it is the *Praxe*.

Being more an observer than a participant here, I can't shake the sense that I'm living on the set of the next "Harry Potter" movie.

COLLEGE SHORTS

BY ZAMIR AHMED, SCOTT GREENE AND DEREK SCHLICKEISEN

BU GOP questions race-based awards

A new student-sponsored scholarship offered to students at Boston University (BU) is being used to protest financial aid programs that are awarded based on ethnic background. The $250 Caucasian Achievement and Recognition Scholarship is open only to students who are at least one-quarter Caucasian.

The BU College Republicans are using the scholarship to draw attention to what it calls "the worst form of bigotry confronting America today." The group believes that granting scholarships based on race is "ridiculous," as it argues that there are financially-needy white students as well who should not be denied access to awards.

Applicants for the scholarship must have at least a 3.2 grade point average and be a full-time student at BU. Applicants must also submit two essays, one describing their ethnic ancestry and one describing "what it means to you to be a Caucasian-American today."

In 2003, the College Republicans at Roger Williams University created a similar scholarship for Caucasians only. The group received complaints with the award's creation and attracted national media attention. Fifteen students applied for the scholarship, which was discontinued after the Republican Party severed ties with the student organization.

—ABCNews.com and *The Daily Free Press*

Use of Taser shocks UCLA students

The UCLA community is in an uproar after police repeatedly Tasered a student who failed to produce his student identification card in the library after hours. During the altercation, caught on video by a fellow student using his cell phone, police stunned Mostafa Tabatabainejad at least four times before handcuffing him and taking him into custody.

The six-minute video shows police applying the Taser gun after Tabatabainejad went limp in protest to the police questioning, forcing officers to begin dragging him from the building. Officers can be heard telling the student to "stand up" or he will be "Tased again." According to bystanders, police threatened to use Tasers on other students who demanded to see their badges and shocked Tabatabainejad after he had been handcuffed.

Tabatabainejad has hired an attorney and is planning to sue the University's police department for false arrest and "brutal excessive force." The officer who shocked Tabatabainejad, Terrence Duren, had one previous complaint of excessive force on his record prior to the incident.

—The UCLA Daily Bruin

UPenn releases more info on crime victims

The University of Pennsylvania will again release crime victims' specific affiliations with the University when publicly reporting crime statistics, its Divison of Public Safety announced on Nov. 22. The inclusion of victims' affiliations with the University will make it possible to track the number of crimes targeted specifically at students.

The division amended its policy earlier this year, choosing only to indicate whether victims were affiliated with the University. No distinction was made between students, faculty and staff when reporting crimes.

UPenn's history with crime reporting includes an accusation by the government of underreporting crime in the mid-1990s, and the University was found to have violated a crime-reporting law in 1998. Officials say that they now go so far as to over-report crimes to the government and the public.

Still, some officials at UPenn have expressed concern that making such information public could threaten a victims' privacy.

— The Daily Pennsylvanian

President reaches out to students

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

issues like campus safety raised at the lunch meetings have made their way onto the agenda at weekly meetings of the senior administration as a result of student input.

"[Liebowitz] took notes, asked us to send follow-up emails and engaged us in brief discussions of our ideas," said Ward. "He shared his opinions and explained how they sometimes differed from the general administrative position on certain issues."

Some students said they were surprised to learn that even the president must deal with the College's bureaucracy.

"The most striking thing was that he had to deal with red-tape as well," she said. "Most students forget that. I came away feeling like I took my opinions to someone with power who really heard what I had to say, even if nothing can be done immediately, or ever."

Liebowitz said he has welcomed the opportunity both to learn about students' concerns at the College and to provide a glimpse into the administrative decision-making process on key issues.

"I hope greater accessibility demystifies who the College president is, how things get done at the College and what went into any decision a student feels was wrong or not clearly articulated," he said. "I hope they have found me to be open and willing to consider their views and to take their opinions seriously."

I hope [students] have found me to be open and willing to consider their views and to take their opinions seriously.

—Ronald D. Liebowitz

In addition to giving students access to Liebowitz, the meetings also give the Professor of Geography a renewed access to students. Though Liebowitz still officially holds his title in the Geography Department, his schedule as president has prevented him from teaching any classes — much to his disappointment.

"There is nothing more energizing than meeting with students, especially when one used to meet regularly with them as a faculty member," Liebowitz said. "As president, the opportunities for such interaction are much more challenging."

While the College has opted for this more personal route in gathering student input, a number of colleges and universities have set up administrative blogs to give their presidents an online presence.

As *The New York Times* first reported this month, high-ranking officials at nearly a dozen universities nationwide have begun posting online in an effort to address concerns that students may post on their own Web pages. While administrators here at the College said they found the idea of starting a blog appealing, they had to weigh other concerns as well.

"One challenge with blogs is that there is a trade-off between authenticity or transparency, and a loss of control," said McKenna. "Once a mistake is out on the Web, it can be very hard to correct, with consequences damaging to the reputations of individuals and the institution. It also can take an awful lot of time maintaining an up-to-date and therefore useful conversation or dialogue."

Smith leaves legacy of dedication

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the department as its chair for 15, indelibly influencing the direction of the department he so faithfully served during his tenure.

"He's the one who built the Economics Department here as we know it today," said Professor of Economics Michael Claudon, whom Smith hired in 1970. "He humanized the discipline of economics."

For his fellow professors, he was an inspiration and a beloved mentor, particularly because of his dedication to teaching.

"I was immediately impressed by his humanity and his knowledge of the field, but especially his commitment to his students," said Claudon after reflecting on first meeting Smith. "That, I have to say, is what attracted me to Middlebury."

This commitment was consistently present in Smith's patience and compassion with students, traits that motivated his colleagues to engage their students in lively, meaningful ways.

"He was a like a father figure to me," wrote D.K. Smith Professor of Economics Phanindra Wunnava, who currently holds the endowed professorship named in Smith's honor, in an e-mail on Tuesday. "Over the years, I have had numerous discussions with him about how to be an effective teacher."

During the 1970s, Smith created a course in environmental economics that strengthened the College's commitment to its then-burgeoning role as an environmental leader. His courses were perennially among the most popular in his department, and during his time at the College he taught over 5,000 students. His students will remember him not only for his spirited humor and ever-present wing-tipped shoes, but also for his passion for his field and his unwavering interest in their success.

"D.K. had no ego," said Edward Schaefer III '84, who, along with his father and his sister, Laura Schaefer '79, helped establish the Professor David K. Smith Visiting Economic Lecture Series when his advisor retired. "His success was the success of his students, like a great coach sitting in the dugout watching his team celebrate a World Series Championship. D.K. Smith's joy was watching us become leaders," he said.

In addition to his engagement in the College community, Smith was deeply devoted to his local community, serving on the Vermont Council of Economic Advisors under four state governors, as a trustee of the village of Middlebury and as a consultant for Central Vermont Public Service. He strove to instill that same civic commitment in his students, incorporating civic engagement projects into many of his applied economics courses.

"D.K. actually did service learning from the very beginning of his career," said Claudon. "His students were always engaged in projects with businesses, with the local community. He used the real world as his teaching palette."

Smith played the bass fiddle, was an avid skier and delighted those who knew him with his irrepressible humor. He and his wife, Carol, invited faculty and students into their home regularly, hosting book clubs and offering frequent home-cooked dinners. Over dinner, Smith often regaled his anecdotes about the College and the town. Wunnava fondly recalled Christmas at the Smith house — "complete with snow, Christmas trees and, yes, Santa Claus coming down the chimney."

Smith is survived by his four children, their spouses and nine grandchildren. His wife Carol, a 1943 graduate of the College, died in 2004.

Contributions in his honor may be made to the Christian Science Church and the Catamount Trail Association.

As the College mourns Smith's loss, his colleagues and former students reflect on the impact he had on so many lives.

"We're going to miss him," said Claudon. "He can't be replaced."

For the resident economist, a life in numbers:

37	The number of years that Smith taught at the College
'42	The year in which Smith graduated from the College
3	The number of advanced degrees that Smith held
15	The number of years that he served as department chair
5k	The estimated number of students Smith taught

public safety log

NOVEMBER 15, 2006 TO NOVEMBER 19, 2006

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
11/15/2006	10:02 p.m.	Drug Violation	Paraphernalia	Coffrin	Referred to Commons Dean
11/15/2006	9:30 p.m.	Theft	Wallet	Natatorium	Referred to MPD
11/17/2006	2:08 a.m.	Vandalism	Emergency Phone/Blue Globe	E Lot	No Suspects
11/18/2006	unknown	Theft	Cash/misc. items	Carr Hall	Referred to Commons Dean
11/18/2006	11:18 p.m.	Unlawful Trespass	—	Starr Library	Referred to Commons Dean
11/18/2006	5:30 p.m.	Vandalism	Door	McCullough	No Suspects
11/18/2006	12:00 a.m.	Alcohol Citation	Possession by Minor	Gifford	Referred to Commons Dean
11/19/2006	1:13 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise Complaint	82 Weybridge	Referred to Commons Dean
11/19/2006	1:20 a.m.	Vandalism	Vehicle/smashed window	College Street	Referred to MPD
11/19/2006	2:20 a.m.	Disturbance	Noise Complaint	Le Chateau	Referred to Commons Dean
11/19/2006	1:07 a.m.	Alcohol Citation	Possession by Minor	Le Chateau	Referred to Commons Dean
11/19/2006	12:15 a.m.	Alcohol Citation	Possession by Minor	Fletcher	Referred to Commons Dean

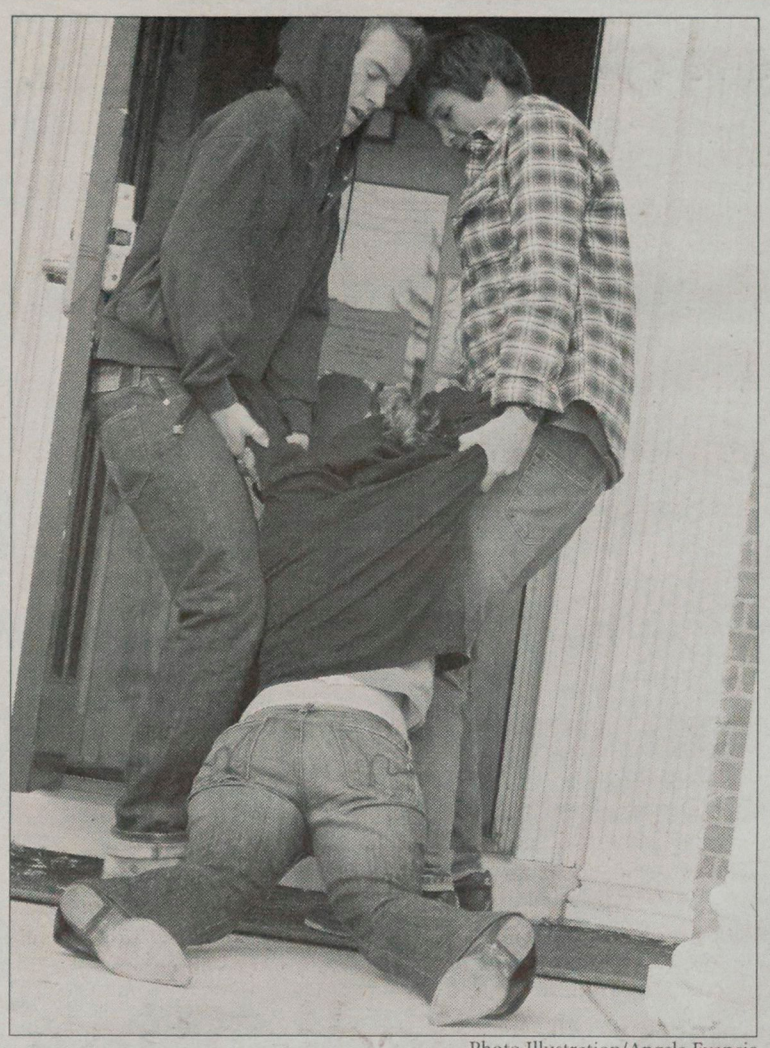

Photo Illustration/Angela Evancie

While the Health Center has seen fewer students this semester for alcohol-related sickness, more students have sought appointments with counselors.

Health Center provides counseling to more patients

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

trend continues and we end up the year down 25 to 30 percent, then that's good news."

Spears added that the recent devolution of the College's social scene away from on-campus partying may also have an effect on the total numbers, because partying off-campus makes it less convenient for a student to go down to the Health Center.

"I'd love to be able to say that those statistics indicate an upsurge in responsible drinking, but I don't want to go that far," he said.

Hanson echoed Spears' cautiousness, saying that it is unlikely such a trend would cause the College to rethink its alcohol policy.

"It doesn't necessarily mean that students are making better choices," she said. "We want students to be educated about the services that the Health Center has to offer, and a higher number of visits may only indicate that students are being cautious and getting checked out after drinking, not that they are drinking more or less."

Alcohol-related visits form only a small portion of the total visits received by the Health Center each year. Total visits have also declined compared to the same point last year, down from 1,989 to 1,833.

On the other hand, visits to the College's Counseling Center seem to be roughly on par with those of a year ago, when counselors saw a total of 399 students. Still, total numbers have grown steadily since the early 1990's, a rise that has been maintained over the past five years, according to the Center's Assistant Director Virginia Logan.

The most common causes of visits are stress, relationship issues, depression and anxiety, and a majority of students who seek help are first-years and seniors.

"It has to do with the transition in and the transition out. Both of those are really tough transitions," Logan said. "I've been doing this work over 25 years, and I've never worked anywhere where there's such a wide range of issues." She added that by the time each senior class graduates, the Counseling Center has seen between 33 and 40 percent of students in that class at least once during their four years at the College.

The rise in visits to the Counseling Center does not necessarily indicate that more students are having psychological health issues, however, but rather speaks to the success of recent outreach efforts.

"I think the main reason in the last five years is that we've tried to reach out more and educate students about counseling, let them know that we're here and we see a lot of Middlebury students," Logan said.

Hanson agreed. "I think the increase in numbers there speaks to the confidence students have in the Counseling Center as a place to go to address concerns," she said.

Jenny said that similar efforts by the Health Center this year could possibly explain the drop in alcohol-related visits, as the College's Director of Health and Wellness Education, Alicia Battle, has strengthened the College's education program.

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localnews

7
WISHING FOR WINTER
SKI RESORTS HOPE FOR A BLUSTERY SNOWFALL

7
COUNT CHOCULA
CHOCOLATE STORE TEMPTS THE TASTE BUDS AND SAVORS THE SENSES

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow

By Andrea Glaessner
Local News Editor

Vermont ski resorts are gearing up for the season with high hopes for heavy snow. Given last winter's dismal performance of feeble snowfalls and dreary rainstorms, most ski resorts are especially dependent on high snow accumulation this year.

So what is in store for this snow season? It is almost December and Middlebury is still feeling eerily warm. Where are the frozen nostrils and why can we still feel our toes? Most snow-lovers are concerned that temperatures have been in the 50s this late in the year. Although meteorologists are optimistic that snow will hit Middlebury by Friday, weather predictions remain unpredictable.

Many Vermont ski resorts are fearful of another repeat season of all rain and no snow. Peter Mackey, Snow Bowl manager, reflected on last year.

"I think last year was as unusual a winter as we've had in a long time. We had four or five storms where we got dumped with rain." However, Mackey is optimistic that this year will be different, "The fact that we don't have any snow on the ground right now is less unusual."

Braedy Stone, an assistant to the marketing director at Mad River Glen, agrees that a late snowfall does not necessarily preclude a mild winter. Stone, a native Vermonter, said, "It would be great if we could open right now, but [a late snowfall] is not uncommon. Usually we wait until the [Christmas] holiday week to open, so we might get all of our snow in the next two weeks."

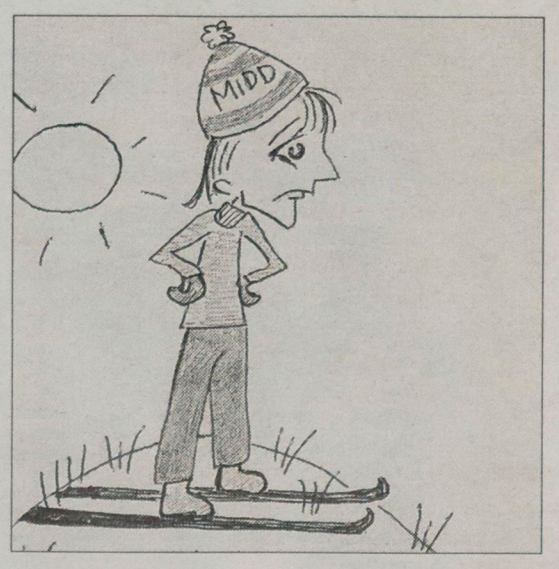
For Mad River Glen, natural snowfall is especially crucial since the mountain prides itself on offering a more organic skiing experience. Mad River Glen is a cooperative business and only owns two snow guns for producing artificial snow for the base layer. Stone explained this consequent predicament saying, "It's definitely frustrating because we don't make snow here, so it's not like if we had the cold temperatures we could be cranking snow out earlier. We're totally dependent on Mother Nature."

Our skiers would rather not ski on artificial snow. It's like ice cream versus frozen yogurt.

—Braedy Stone

The mountain chooses not to produce artificial snow for both economic and philosophical reasons. The overhead cost of purchasing the guns is extensive and, as a cooperative, Stone said, "we're not exactly rolling in money here."

Also, the mountain lacks the natural resources needed to pull water to make the snow. According to Stone, "We only make 15 percent of our snow because our pond isn't big enough to pull from." Overall, dependence on natural snow is part of what makes Mad River Glen so unique. According to Stone, "Our skiers would rather not ski on artificial snow. It's just a different consistency and texture. It's like ice cream versus frozen yogurt."



Mad River Glen is one of the few mountains left in Vermont that relies heavily on natural snow. Many mountains use artificial snow to extend the season. Kim Hewitt, a representative from Jay Peak, said, "We make snow early in the season to give Mother Nature a hand. It helps to get a good base down early and extend the season at the end." But like Mad River Glen, Jay Peak still depends on natural snowfall, though not necessarily for survival during the ski season. Natural snowfall helps Jay Peak maintain its reputation as the mountain that receives the most snow in the East.

According to information provided by Hewitt, Jay Peak's close proximity to Lake Champlain, St. Lawrence River, Lake Ontario and several other rivers and lakes in Quebec contributes to at least 20 percent of the mountain's annual snowfall. In fact, the lake effect is actually a huge influence on natural snowfall during warm winters when the lakes are not frozen and occasional bursts of cold air come over the warm waters.

Mad River Glen certainly notices when Jay Peak hogs all the winter snow. When asked about how last winter affected Mad River Glen, Stone said, "Last year was terrible. It seemed like it rained more than it snowed. All the rain we got was snow for Jay Peak. We were just sitting in the wrong place in the valley and all the fronts that came through weren't very considerate."

Homelessness exists behind the scenes

By Kacie Sherman
Staff Writer

Homelessness has its stereotypical depictions: men and women in dirty clothes begging in the street, shantytowns in cities' peripheries and people sleeping on park benches. In Vermont, and especially in Middlebury, those images couldn't be further from the true nature of homelessness. Though the supply of adequate and affordable housing makes finding shelter for the homeless in Addison County an increasingly acute problem, its realities are veiled.

As Sarah Lauing, a student leader for Hunger and Homelessness week, said, "When you don't see panhandlers on the freshly plowed paths of the campus, it's hard to remember that poverty exists right outside our 'bubble' and right inside our county."

Each year, over 4,000 Vermonters rely on homeless shelters as a primary means of residence, and part of this dependence is due to a lack of affordable, appropriate housing. Simply put, the supply of affordable, maintainable housing severely shortchanges the demand for such units. The 2005 Addison County Needs Assessment Report estimates that the county is facing a shortage of 1,149 affordable rental units.

Kate McGowan of the Addison County Housing Coalition, clarified the definition of affordable, "Often [units] are called affordable, but this is based on median income in the county. That doesn't mean it is affordable for people living below the median income level".

Unfortunately for Addison County and its residents, many of the rental units that fall into this price category are either occupied by households with upper-level incomes (and who therefore are spending less than 30 percent of their income, the technical definition of affordability, on housing), or are vacant. The concept of vacancy is misleading, however, because a healthy real estate market depends upon a total five percent natural vacancy rate, and Addison County's rate is only 3.6 percent.

The Addison County Housing Coalition, which is a subcommittee of a group called the Poverty Task Force, is focused on one of the Force's four main goals — helping Addison County residents gain access to affordable housing. The Coalition has created an educational DVD and a booklet for the community that provides practical advice regarding finding and financing housing.

A much larger project is also underway, a project that McGowan described as a "shared risk pool or community loan fund." It is meant to provide home renters with a reasonable loan and repayment option for their often hard to finance down payment. The fund would be a streamlining of local housing agencies' discretionary funds, and would simultaneously provide landlords with a reliable deposit and those who were renting with a mean to develop good credit.

In regards to the landlord/renter relationship, McGowan recognized that fissures may be more subtle than financial default. "Many people raised in intergenerational poverty haven't been taught the middle class rules by which many of us operate — these are soft skills, hard to teach, hard to quantify and qualify, but often are deal breakers," she says. This intangible challenge in addition to the realities of financial limitations is one of many that the Coalition and its allies face in combating homelessness in Addison County .

Households in Addison County's lowest income brackets are most likely to suffer from mobility and healthcare issues, and are also most at risk for home maintenance issues. Furthermore, children that are raised in homelessness are five times as likely to suffer speech and stammering problems and twice as likely to experience emergency hospitalizations, showing the psychological and physiological impacts that this housing crisis may have on future generations.

Addison County's unemployment rate is only three percent, whereas the national average is five percent, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. If a greater majority of residents have work than the national norm, where lies the financial burden? In Addison County, the four most common forms of employment are in the "lower-paying service oriented positions," according to the Needs Assessment report.

According to their calculations, the average hourly wage in this labor force is $14 an hour, which would be just barely enough to afford the average rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Middlebury, which is $723 a month. According to the John Graham Shelter in Vergennes, 62 percent of the homeless population they serve have earned high school diplomas, but the affordability gap for employed people, low-income or not, is skyrocketing. As housing prices rise unimpeded, and incomes barely break inertia, an average of $90,000 stands between one who wishes to own a house and actually owning a house.

In an effort to illuminate the realities and relationship between homelessness and hunger, Middlebury College's Alliance for Civic Engagement hosted a variety of awareness events last week. These included an interactive simulation of homelessness in the lobby of the Main Library, a food drive competition and a Pub Night to support the Farm Bill. The events incorporated homelessness and hunger awareness into many arenas of the average Middlebury student's daily life, rendering the invisible injustice of Addison County visible.

As Kate McGowan said, "Housing may not be seen as a community-wide crisis, so people may not feel compelled to act," she described the scenario of a local family who was turned away from fully-occupied shelters and who is now living out of its car with their 11-month-old child, saying, "they are experiencing nothing less than a crisis."

Expressing the reality of most Middlebury community members, McGowan reflects that throughout her life she has been provided with unasked-for and unrecognized support. Verbalizing her ideals and those of her organization, she said, "If people who are struggling have not been given support and encouragement in the past for whatever reason, what could be more empowering [for them] than finally getting that key component and having all the pieces fall into place?"

Otter Creek Crumbles Cookie Competition

One brave *Campus* writer struggles to define delicious

The thick, warm chocolate. The soft, yielding dough. Ah, chocolate chip cookies. As any junk food connoisseur knows, these delightful morsels are most certainly not created equal. Some are endowed by their creator with some extra oomph — a little more oozing chocolate here, a little more scrumptious dough there. Naturally, with an eye to this reality, one must be more than a bit discerning about her indulgence of choice. But, with so many options, what is a Midd Kid with an aching sweet tooth to do? Never fear. In the interest of quelling dessert indecision and expediting the freshman 15, *The Campus* scoured the streets of Middlebury in pursuit of the chocolate chip creation to trump all others. Here is how the cookie crumbled.

—Kelly Janis

Middlebury Market & Café
54 College Street
Price: $1.64

Chef and owner Usamah Hayyat, who conceived of the cookie's recipe in conjunction with co-worker Mo O'Keefe, is quick to sing praises of his chocolate creation.

"It's not overcooked," he explained. "It's soft and chewy and has a doughy center. It's not crispy, it's not falling apart. It has a good flavor." The Market & Café treat avails itself of Hershey's chocolate chips and uses unsalted butter. "Most people," Hayyat said, "use salted butter." This cookie, he implied, should thus stand out, unique from the fray.

Though the cookie was a bit pricier than some of its counterparts in town, its thickness and the brawniness of the chocolate chips that were liberally dotted throughout the cookie made it well worth the cost. The bottom was dark brown, calling into question Hayyat's assertion that the baked goods were not overcooked. Its bulkiness and resultant resistance to being broken into manageable pieces made it a bit difficult to handle, but it was admittedly satisfying. This cookie seems to be for the ravenously hungry snacker who is not the least bit tentative about their cookie consumption. It is big, bold and filling.

Carol's Hungry Mind Café
24 Merchant's Row

Carol's Hungry Mind Café is usually abuzz with excitable, heavily caffeinated customers and boasts a warm ambience and a menu brimming with a wide assortment of goodies. But, wait! Something was missing. Where were the staple chocolate chip cookies?

"They're so good, they're gone!" a clerk named Claire said and explained that a fresh, warm batch would emerge from the oven some time late the next morning.

When asked to describe the morsel, she did so with a nostalgic smile. "It's a little crunchy. Crusty on the edges, moist on the inside and loaded with chocolate," she paused, intoxicated by her recollection. "I love cookies like that."

The cookie no doubt sounds appealing. But, if it's unavailable to satisfy a late-afternoon chocolate craving, I can't help but question its ability to stand up to the competition.

Dunkin' Donuts
16 Court Street
Price: $.59

Dunkin' Donuts, nestled in the corner of an Exxon gas station across from Mary Hogan Elementary School, has dubbed its fresh-baked cookies "coffee's new entourage." The restaurant's website goes so far as to insist that they are "delicious, satisfying and irresistible!" — a formidable claim to live up to, indeed.

Dunkin' Donuts' chocolate chunk cookie certainly stands its ground. It is firm, perfectly round and imbued with some serious chocolate. Unfortunately, however, it soberly reminds diners that, it is possible to have too much of a good thing. Eating a Dunkin' Donuts chocolate chip cookie is like inhaling a box of chocolates. The hardcore chocolate lover may not bat an eye at this notion. But for those seeking the delicate balance between chocolate and dough,

Ilhan Kim

The Middlebury Market, fresh out of renovations, takes a close second.

Ilhan Kim

And the winner is...Otter Creek's cookie takes the cake

which characterizes a true chocolate chip cookie, look elsewhere.

Subway
40 Court Street
Price: $.49

Upon bounding through Subway's doors one finds a glass container that displays a modest selection of cookies. Unfortunately, the slot labeled "chocolate chip" was conspicuously empty. Employee Kim Fallon said that they had just run out of chocolate chip cookies but offered some chocolate M&M cookies as a substitute.

Hmm. Would the infusion of these chocolate-coated candies be considered cheating? After learning about *The Campus'* quest for the perfect cookies, Fallon said, "I hate cookies, so I wouldn't be the one to ask."

Behind Fallon, fellow employee Jennifer Sheldon smirked as she munched on what she confessed was her third cookie of the day. "They're soft, they're nice, I like them," she said,

Fallon and Sheldon were curious about what other establishments offered chocolate chip cookies. When "Dunkin' Donuts" was mentioned, the duo seemed horrified. "Dunkin' Donuts sells cookies?" Sheldon asked, incredulous.

A Hefty Ziplock bag containing the specimen was produced.

After eyeing it suspiciously, Fallon advised, "I wouldn't eat that."

"Everything there consists of nothing but sweets. Sugar, sugar, sugar," added Sheldon.

Though the staff was lively and amusing, the tasting had to continue with the purchase of a chocolate chip M&M cookie which, in its scarcity of M&Ms, would appear to the untrained eye to be a regular ol' chocolate chip cookie anyway.

Fortunately for cookie lovers, in spite of Subway's commitment to fresh, nutritious offerings, the restaurant's cookies do, indeed, pay their proper respects to the gods of sugar and empty calories. Truth be told, however, the cookie was neither overwhelming nor particularly impressive. It was thin, the chocolate was bland and indistinct and the baked good sort of smelled like a turkey sub, which was a little awkward. So, a thumbs down to the cookie itself, but two thumbs up to the establishment's lack of inhibition in shamelessly bashing its competitors and its closing proclamation that it "loves college students."

Otter Creek Bakery
14 College Street
Price: $1.50

Otter Creek Bakery, "a small European-style bakery/deli offering a full line of gourmet foods made on the premises," offers a dizzying selection of diverse and eclectic baked goods, but not at the exclusion of the classic chocolate chip cookie.

"It contains all natural ingredients," bakery clerk Tammy Ifflin said. "We don't use any shortening, only real butter. It's baked here and served fresh everyday."

Otter Creek's chocolate chip cookie is a delight to all of the senses. With its ideal thickness and golden color, it is pleasing to the eye. It smells deliciously home-baked and quintessentially bakery-fresh, all at once. It possesses a certain gritty, distinctive texture. And, most importantly, it scores high on the taste-o-meter. In the spirit of being a critic and therefore offering up some obligatory criticism of the otherwise masterpiece-esque representation of a chocolate chip cookie, it would be the fashion in which the sweetness of the chocolate is sometimes overshadowed by the unusual sweetness of the dough in which it is imbedded. But, this rather minor gripe is not sufficient to eject Otter Creek Bakery's creation from its preeminent position on the throne of Middlebury's finest baked goods.

So there you have it. After much searching and agonizing and mouth-watering and stomach clutching with the ambivalent pangs of enough sugar to kill a cow, the ruling has been made: Otter Creek is king. If you're looking for the ooey-gooey goodness of chocolate chip glory, look no further than these masters of everything devilishly delicious.

Now, where can I get a glass of milk?

THE LOCAL FLAVOR

By Emily Thompson
Local News Editor

For those of us looking for sushi here in Middlebury, the Asiana House in Burlington fulfills that Japanese desire with its menu ranging from standard favorites like shrimp tempura and teriyaki salmon to innovative sushi maki. Due to its wide range of sushi and cooked entrees, Asiana House accommodates a very broad range of customers, even those who may fear their first bite of raw fish.

Though small, the restaurant is quite chic with its modern wooden interior, somewhat reminiscent of a sauna. Because the restaurant is so small, it forced us to wait 45 minutes for our table Saturday. The service was very friendly, partially because they apologized excessively for the long wait for our table. The elbowroom on the long wooden benches left something to be desired and maneuvering around the tables in order to get to the bathroom was like an exercise in hula dancing. Due to the small size of the waiting staff, the wait for the food rivaled that for the table itself. During the wait for the food, the oh-so-close neighbors and their large sushi boats taunted us with their rainbow-colored creations.

The appetizers are nothing too special, simply common favorites done especially well. Warm and salty edamame prepared the stomach for the generous helpings of sushi to come. The average price for small, cooked appetizers are less than ten dollars, but money should be spent on the main courses if one is strapped for cash.

The sushi rolls, or maki, not only come in huge portions, but are works of art as well. The Volcano maki looked like a volcano, with the sushi rolls stacked up in order to make a mountain and bright orange seafood salad spewing right out of the top. The Rainbow maki not only exhibited the many different colors of the rainbow, but arched across the plate as if it belonged in the sky.

Many of the house specials have little unexpected twists that make them all the more special. Bits of vegetable tempura hide in the spicy tuna roll simply to add an enjoyable crunch. For vegetarians, Asiana House provides tempeh and vegetable specials that rival their raw fish counterparts. Even the old standards of tuna and California rolls satisfy, undeniably thanks to the fresh fish delivered every other day. The house specials range from 13 dollars to about 20 dollars for six pieces. The standard rolls range from three to six dollars for vegetable rolls.

The desserts do not abide by the Japanese mantra of the restaurant, but no matter. The fruit platters and tempura ice cream fill up the last bit of space in one's stomach, if there was one to begin with in the first place.

As one of the few decent options for Japanese cuisine close to Middlebury, Asiana House's specials constantly change in order to satisfy new and returning customers. The wait might be long, but stick it out, the meal will be worth it.

A chocolate river runs through Vergennes

By Rachel Schiffer
Staff Writer

After a two-day-long Thanksgiving extravaganza (yes, my family goes all out and celebrates two nights), the idea of gobbling down more food seemed an impossible feat. But on the third day after Turkey Day I was finally able to end the holiday weekend with a true finale dessert at Daily Chocolate, a local gourmet chocolate shop nestled halfway down Green Street in Vergennes.

As you enter the shop an inviting chocolate trio immediately surrounds you. The rich, deep and intense aroma of dark chocolate greets you at the door. The display counter begs your eyes to linger on the incredible variety of stylish chocolate confections. Finally you are welcomed by one of the chocolatiers herself as she offers you a free sample of pure chocolate goodness.

It only took two minutes inside this cozy, campy, chocolate cavern before my heart melted for a newfound love. The silky smooth texture of the treats I had just tasted could convert anyone from chocolate liker to chocolate lover. The dark chocolate classic almond bark was surprising and awesome in its simple marriage of bittersweet chocolate and salt-roasted almonds. The sample of lemon-lavender-almond white chocolate bark, an understandable favorite of regular patrons, practically dissolved on my tongue and gave new meaning to the potential of white chocolate.

Sitting in the display case were glossy chocolates, a sign of good tempering, and they sat waiting to be indulged. But while the chocolates were well-tempered, owner and chocolatier Chris White and fellow chocolate maker Floery Mahoney were more than sociable hosts and happy to answer my questions about the chocolate-making process. White and Mahoney's chocolates are made fresh on premise from high quality ingredients and use local products whenever possible. At Daily Chocolate you can expect to find classic and comforting treats like English toffee coated in dark chocolate as well as chocolates created with a twist such as the maple-chipotle pecan cluster—the first item in the case to catch my eye. The toffee revealed a wonderful shot of butter and a perfect crunch; it felt like a sunrise in my mouth. The sticky maple pecans set in elegant dark chocolate were fabulous and the touch of fiery, smoky chipotle in the chocolate successfully put my mouth en guard. Blends of the southwest and northeast seem at home here, as White received his training and first experience running a chocolate shop in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Courtesy
A whole lotta chocolate lines the display at Daily Chocolates in Vergennes. Chocoholics welcome.

As Floery helped me piece together a sample package of chocolates and artfully packaged them to take home, I couldn't help but take in the kitchen area, which is open behind the counter. Heavy marble tables, stainless steel utensils and bins full of chocolate blocks in white milk and dark varieties all assure you that you are in the right kind of kitchen. Temperature control and cleanliness are crucial for good chocolate making and this kitchen has got the right design.

With my focus back on the display case, I decided on six pieces of chocolate and one truffle to get the full range of flavors. The chocolate was priced at a flat rate of $26.00 per pound and two dollars each for the truffles that I was ready to pay a pretty gold penny for, so I was pleasantly surprised when my total came to $12.00 even. At under approximately two dollars a piece this is not an unreasonable daily fix. But if you prefer waiting for your parents' dorm-warming gift next time they're up for a visit, this is the place to hint at. These chocolates go a long way. Because I had seven in front of me and was on a tasting mission to try them all, I split them and served them family-style in true Thanksgiving dessert form.

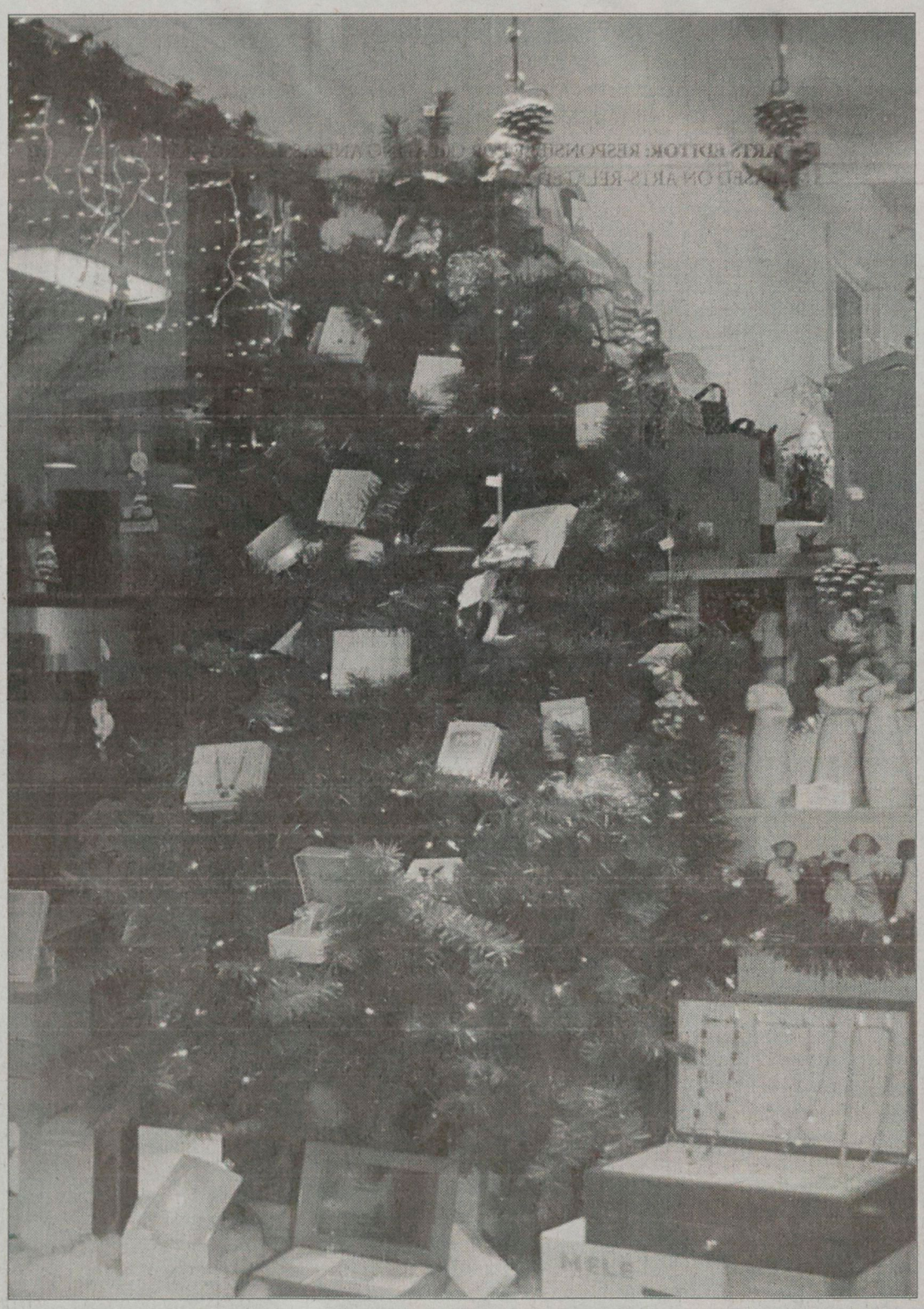
The tangerine chocolate wafer, flavored with tangerine oil and topped with a small knob of crystallized ginger, was smooth and balanced. The chocolate chevre truffle was enticing; its creamy ganache filling coated my mouth. The intense flavors of dark chocolate were first to come through then gently gave way to the delicate, yet distinctive tang of goat cheese. It was simply a pleasure to eat and as far as 'wow' factors go, I was impressed.

The chocolate-caramel pretzel, a popular seller with the kids, put a smile on my face. As I crunched through the almond exterior and pretzel interior, the pretzel's double coating, first in homemade caramel and then in dark chocolate, brought the two pieces together seamlessly. On top of the black rum caramel a sprinkle of grey sea salt worked wonders to balance and enhance the flavors behind the chocolate. Though I had to work to taste any rum, the caramel filling was soft, rich and creamy ,and its amber color was beautifully framed in its dark chocolate coating.

I decided to finish with the classic chocolate mint combo in the form of a black and white peppermint patty. The peppermint cream set in a thin dark chocolate disk and drizzled with dark chocolate, was almost too sweet but cleansed the palette without shutting it down. The last bite I took reflected everything I had just tasted; and though I was finally full with dessert and my daily chocolate complete, I know I'll be back for more.

Daily Chocolate is open during holiday season (through January) M-F 10am-6pm and Sat 10am-4pm and after January on W-F 10am-6pm and Sat 10am-4pm. They are located at 7 Green Street n Vergennes and can be reached at 802-877-0087.

Deck the town with boughs of holly



The Rainbow Room spices up displays with an early burst of Christmas spirit. Jewelry boxes adorn the store, tempting buyers to start their Christmas shopping early this year, suggesting beautiful gold bracelets and necklaces as gift ideas, or perhaps a gift of diamonds for those shoppers feeling extra generous this season. A faux tree covered in tinsel added a little holiday cheer to the space.

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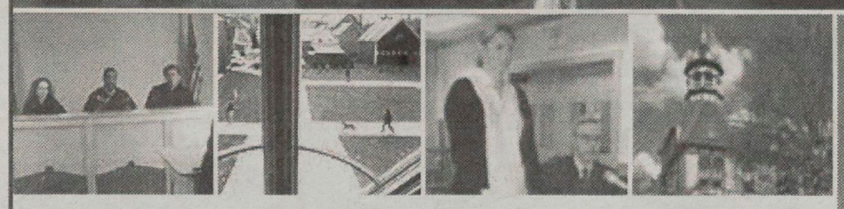

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Editorials

You might call us un-thankful, but...

With the College's student population spread out across the country, and the world for that matter, it is high-time Middlebury seriously consider expanding the Thanskgiving recess to be a week-long break, as our peers at Amherst and Bates have done.

The three-days off for Thanksgiving make it difficult for many students to travel all the way home and back with enough time to eat in between. The pricey and limited selection of flights out of Burlington airport seem to skyrocket in cost and run out of seats on the Tuesday and Wednesdays we get let out for breaks, and for that reason, many students already take off the weekend before and skip classes to pretend they have a whole week vacation. Which leads to the most important point: right now those two scrap days are just that: scraps. Many professors already cancel classes or make them optional, and many students take off with or without their professors' consent. By making the vacation a week long, and adding the two days to the beginning or end of the semester calendar, those days of class time could be more meaningful and productive.

The greatest sacrifice of creating a week-long break would be the fact that it could undermine the precious harmony that the College finally found this year, making fall break land on a Monday and Tuesday, so that with the Wednesday through Friday Thanksgiving recess, each day of the week missed an equal number of class sessions in the semester. And there are no longer those crazy mind-bending days where one week we have to pretend Tuesday is really Thursday, or other such nonsense, to balance out the calendar. But this technical concern is a minor issue, if modifying the calendar could save students and faculty time and money, and could make two now meaningless class days a whole lot more productive.

About those good eats at Ross

While it is not normally the purview of the editorial to play the part of campus food critic, Ross Commons did something extraordinary the week before break and we want to recognize it. From Tuesday to Thursday, Nov. 14-17, the Ross staff made eating fun and tasty again, and they made it a little bit adventurous, too. For these four nights leading into the International Student Organization's Cultural Show, Ross offered creative and original dining menus from different region of the world

They offered a Middle Eastern night with lamb and vegetable curry, falafel with hilbeh and tabbouleh. They offered a European night with roast pork with cranberry port Sauce, grilled vegetable strudel, french bread and tiramisu. There was a night of Asian cuisine starring real sushi, as well as tofu miso soup, Korean BBQ short ribs, steamed vegetable dumplings, and fiery mixed vegetables. And then they wrapped it all up with an evening of Latin American dining on Friday, starring black bean soup, tilapia with tangerine sauce, feijoada, tomato rice, Latin style chicken and sweet rice pudding

Hungry yet? We will be honest that we still do not know what some of the things were that we ate in this week of international cuisine, but they were different and we liked them. And just contrast those offerings with tonight's, back-to-the regular selection of chicken, chicken, chicken and tofu cacciatore. The creativity did not just mean a better meal, it was a better atmosphere, too. Students were stopping chefs to ask if they could bring in some of their ethnic recipes from home. Ross dining hall was overcrowded, but it meant more people were taking breaks from work to cross campus and enjoy a long and filling meal. Whatever the costs in time, energy or money to put together this week, we hope they will bring it back more often, and that other dining halls will venture to put a little adventure in our daily suppers.

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> "A higher number of [Health Center] visits may only indicate that students are being cautious and getting checked after drinking, not that they are drinking more or less."
>
> — Dean of Students Affairs Ann Hanson

Taylor Long and Steve Miller

Letters to the Editor

Faculty against professorship

To the Editor:

We wish to reaffirm our commitment to diversity at Middlebury College. According to our mission statement, diversity includes "the integration of historically underrepresented groups into the campus community."

Given the documented pattern of hostility Judge Rehnquist demonstrated toward these same "historically underrepresented groups" and the negative effects his judicial decisions continue to have on the individual members of these groups, namely people of color, women and gays and lesbians, we believe that the recent naming of an endowed chair for William H. Rehnquist undermines Middlebury College's ability to promote diversity among its faculty, students and staff.

We ask that everyone associated with this college considers the effect of their actions on our ability to create a diverse community.

We would support the establishment of procedures that ensure that the increasing diversity of the community of students, faculty and staff at Middlebury College is given due consideration in all aspects of decision making.

Signed by:
Eduardo Bejar, *Professor of Spanish*; Timothy Billings, *Associate Professor of English*; Natasha Chang; Jane Chaplin, *Associate Professor of Classics*; Francois Clemmons, *Twilight Artist-in-Residence*; Claudia Cooper, *Assistant Professor of Education*; Armelle Crouzieres-Ingenthron, *Associate Professor of French*; Darien Davis, *Associate Professor of History*; Kyoko Davis, *Lecturer in Japanese*; Kirsten Ernst, *Visiting Instructor in Spanish and Latin American Studies*; Laurie Essig, *Assistant Professor of Sociology*; Gloria Gonzalez-Zenteno, *Associate Professor of Spanish*; Roman Graf, *Associate Professor of German*; Heidi Grasswick, *Associate Professor of Philosophy*; Nicole Grohoski, *Assistant in Science Instruction in Geography*; Larry Hamberlin, *Assistant Professor of Music*; William Hart, *Associate Professor of History*; Guntram Herb, *Associate Professor of Geography*; Bethany Ladimer, *Professor of French*; Ana Martinez-Lage, *Associate Professor of Spanish*; Bettina Matthias, *Associate Professor of German*; Tamar Mayer, *Professor of Geography*; Sujata Moorti, *Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies*; Thomas Moran, *Associate Professor of Chinese*; Kevin Moss, *Professor of Russian*; Kamakshi Murti, *Professor of German*; Margaret Nelson, *Hepburn Professor of Sociology and Women and Gender Studies*; Michael Olinick, *Professor of Mathematics;* Bob Osborne, *Professor of Psychology*; Robert Prigo, *Professor of Physics*; Robert Prasch, *Associate Professor of Economics*; Paula Schwartz, *Associate Professor of French*; Sallie Sheldon, *Professor of Biology*; Yumna Siddiqi, *Associate Professor of English*; Stephen Snyder, *Associate Professor of Japanese Studies*; Jacob Tropp, *Associate Professor of History*; Linda White, *Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology*

Middlebury Hockey chants

To the Editor:

My family and I are enthusiastic supporters of men's hockey and find it a wonderful alternative to other forms of modern entertainment. It annoys me, however, to hear the repetitive cheer from the student section, "you suck." In an environment of higher learning

See Letters to the Editor, page 12

The real Rehnquist record revealed

In the discussions surrounding the William H. Rehnquist Professorship of American History, we believe that the conservative perspective has been underrepresented. Some student organizations have distorted the Rehnquist record in order to portray the late Chief Justice as anti-women's rights and anti-gay. We wish to inform the Middlebury community that Rehnquist's rulings were based on solid legal and constitutional grounds, rather than his personal political beliefs. In fact, Rehnquist was a staunch opponent of the judicial activist agenda, and spent his career fighting to reemphasize the Supreme Court's status as a judicial rather than a political body.

Rehnquist's detractors challenge that the Chief Justice was an opponent of women's rights, ignoring both that Constitutionally grounded Court rulings are not reflective of a Justice's personal opinion and that the legal basis upon which the pro-choice argument is formed is faulty. In the case of Roe v. Wade, the Court's erroneous conclusion that the so-called right of privacy extends to cases of abortion is an example of it overstepping its bounds and legislating from the bench. Said Rehnquist in his dissent, "The 'privacy' that the Court finds here [is not] even a distant relative of the freedom from searches and seizures protected by the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution, which the Court has referred to as embodying a right to privacy." Rehnquist's adherence to the Constitution, not his personal biases, formed the basis of his dissent.

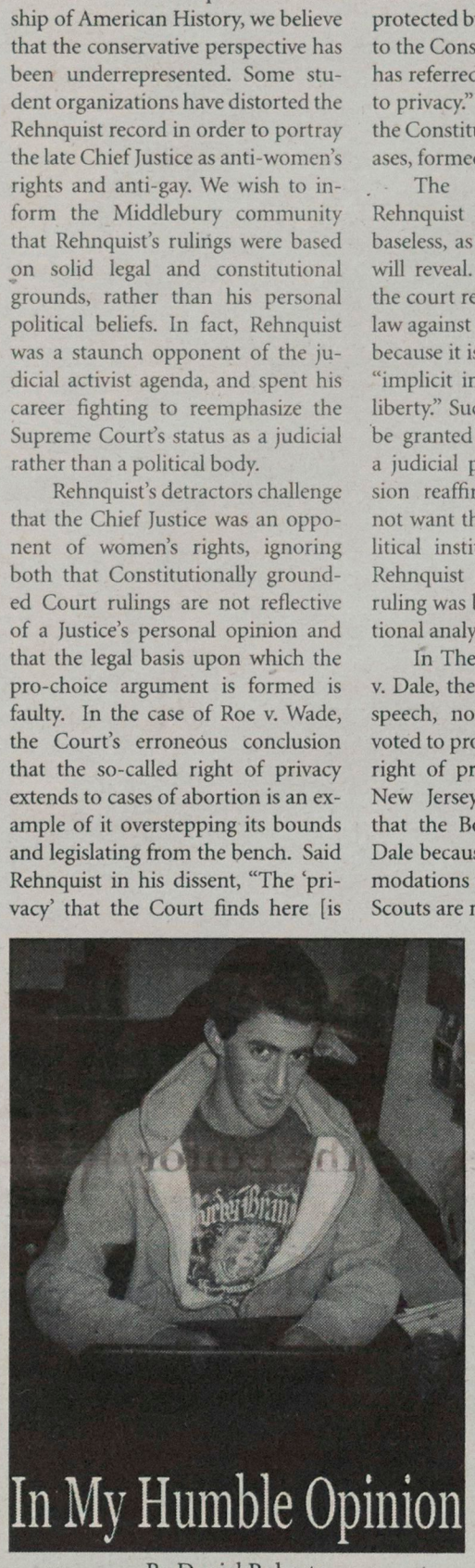
The accusations branding Rehnquist as anti-gay are similarly baseless, as a reading of his verdicts will reveal. In Bowers v. Hardwick, the court refused to rule the Georgia law against sodomy unconstitutional because it is not a fundamental right "implicit in the concept of ordered liberty." Such a right would have to be granted through a political, not a judicial process. Again, this decision reaffirms that Rehnquist did not want the court to become a political institution. Whether or not Rehnquist supported this law, this ruling was based on sound constitutional analysis.

In The Boys Scouts of America v. Dale, the question was about free speech, not gay rights. Rehnquist voted to protect the first amendment right of private organizations. The New Jersey Supreme Court ruled that the Boy Scouts had to admit Dale because of their public accommodations law. However, the Boy Scouts are not a public organization. They have a system of values that may be unpopular, but as stated in the opinion, "protection of the right to expressive association is 'especially important in preserving political and cultural diversity and in shielding dissident expression from suppression by the majority'...[f]reedom of association...plainly presupposes a freedom not to associate." To force The Boy Scouts of America to admit a member they do not want would be to infringe on their first amendment rights.

We see in Rehnquist's written opinions a refusal to misrepresent the Constitution in order to fulfill a political agenda. And from this we can see the source of the opinions that many on campus have used to deride Rehnquist and his record. Said Rehnquist himself of the matter, "A judge who is a 'strict constructionist' in constitutional matters will generally not be favorably inclined toward claims of either criminal defendants or civil rights plaintiffs — the latter two groups having been the principal beneficiaries of the Supreme Court's 'broad constructionist' reading of the Constitution." To say that Rehnquist came to his legal conclusions based on his personal biases is an insult to his integrity. The protests surrounding the Rehnquist professorship are an attempt to claim a narrow set of values for the entire Middlebury student body. As a Middlebury faculty member said, the protestors "want to establish a uniform definition" of what they consider Middlebury values. In fact, there are conservatives in the Middlebury community who share Rehnquist's views. We consider our values to be just as legitimate as those the protesters want to impose on the whole community. We consider that we and they have the right to hold different values. For the protesters to seek a confirmation of their values as the official and only permissible values of Middlebury College is intolerant and offensive.

As Sir Thomas Moore said in Robert Bolt's *A Man For All Seasons*, "The world must construe according to its wits; this court must construe according to the law." In accordance with this statement, we believe that the Rehnquist professorship is appropriate. It is an honor for Middlebury College to have a professorship named after such an influential and well-respected figure in American history.

Stefan Claypool '09
Natalie Komrovsky '09
Heather Pangle '10
Lauren Vollmer '10



Paradise "Lost" on break

By Daniel Roberts
Opinion Columnist

There I was, chilling at our Cape Cod house over the break, reminiscing over previous school vacations. I remembered lying on the beach in St. Lucia in seventh grade. I recalled sitting on a Greyhound bus, heading up to Manhattan to visit a cute, spoiled New York princess I used to date.

Then I realized that in each fond vacation memory, I am reading a book. One February break in Aruba I finished "The Neverending Story" (turns out it does end) in one day by the pool. Another break, I devoured "Life of Pi" in a single plane ride to Vegas.

Yet during this Thanksgiving break, I was not kicking back with some light novel. The few moments of leisure time I had alone were spent with "Paradise Lost." As I pondered this tragedy, I realized that I cannot remember the last time I had any chance to read a book for pleasure.

As overachieving college students, we have close to zero opportunities to read freely.

Many of you will now laugh, look up and say, "Who likes to read anyway? Books are dumb." Okay, but stop trying to impress your friends. Think about how you used to love those "Goosebumps" books, or how you tore through each "Harry Potter" book. You just think you hate reading because you probably haven't had a chance to really enjoy it in four years. Trust me, there was a time when you like reading — you're doing it right now.

I would argue that the reason we never read for pleasure anymore is not because books are "lame." It is not due to popular new forms of media that distract kids, like Playstation or Internet games. The reason Becky Braces would prefer to watch "The Notebook" for the seventh time on her laptop rather than dive into a good novel is because of school.

High school is placing enormous stress on Becky to score high on her SATs, earn straight As and shine in the school play, all to get into a great college. This means that in the few hours she has to herself each week, she is so worn down from scholastic commitments that she does not want to focus on a book, but would prefer to do something a little more passive. Who can blame her?

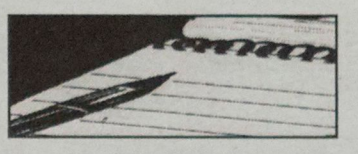
I feel the same way. When I have an open hour on a weeknight, I would love to read, but my head is so flooded with academic texts that to focus on yet another book is too much to handle. The best I can manage is to throw on an episode of "Lost" and lie back on my bed.

The same stigma can be blamed for college binge drinking. Sure, some of us go out Friday night and drink three or four beers, have a good time and return to our bed safe.

Still, many others have such a powerful need to unwind from a week of schoolwork that they get to the party, take six shots, boot all over the futon and end up in the Health Center. Whoops.

I love our fifth-best liberal arts college, but it's a shame that the workload here is so heavy that when we finally get a minute of freedom, the best we can do to relax is drink ourselves to sickness or play Vice City for five hours.

If I did not have to spend all of my time reading John Milton or Nietzsche, perhaps I could devote more time to my old neglected friends, Dan Brown and Stephen King. Have you read even one book since last summer that was not assigned for a class? If you have, I am truly impressed. Now stop bragging.



NOTES
FROM THE DESK

While sitting in my Aesthetics class the other day, I found myself staring at brightly colored ribbons. These were not awards won by past students for their academic achievements or even horseback riding. No, these exquisitely tied ribbons hung from the ponytails of fellow Middlebury women. Pink ribbons with white polka dots mocked me in my Aesthetics class of all places. After overanalyzing their existence, I found absolutely no use for them. Each girl had a ponytail-holder underneath. Neither was dressed like an eight year old nor as Alice in Wonderland.

As the girls' heads bobbed while they scribbled down thoughts of Nietzsche and Kant, I pondered the irony of the situation — the irony that maybe only my cynical mind can see. Both philosophers would point out the beauty of their flaxen blond hair in contrast with the cheap bit of cloth. Why would women want to detract from beauty with such garish objects?

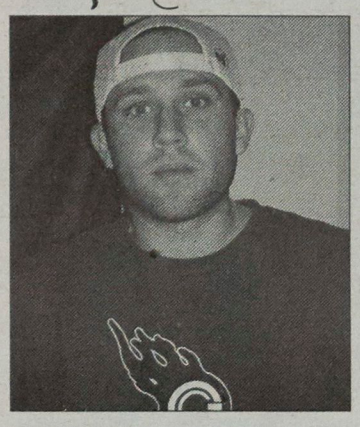
I say women with some reluctance. Ribbons recall images of elementary school, when I tried to decide between a ribbon and a tie-dye scrunchie. Tying a ribbon around a ponytail seems like a complete and utter regression into girlhood. Women do not tie ribbons around their hair, mommies tie ribbons before school starts.

After Aesthetics, in the mob scene that is Atwater dining hall, I spotted the same girl with the same pink ribbon. As she walked by, a boy exclaimed, "I like how that girl wears that pink ribbon in her hair." At that point, I gave up. Boys like girls, not women. As long as there exists ribbon-adoring boys, there will be ribbon-wearing girls deciding between green and pink.

Of course, I may be reading into the whole ribbon thing far too much. There is no color scheme for ribbons, pink meaning "I am flirty" or white meaning "I am from Connecticut," or at least I hope not. What I really hope is that girls do not wear them to be girls. If they are simply a fashion trend that I never found out about, then I retract my previous statements. However, if they are a ploy to be flirtatious and attract boys, then maybe I should just buy some for myself.

— Emily Thompson
Local News Editor

The Middlebury Campus weekly poll

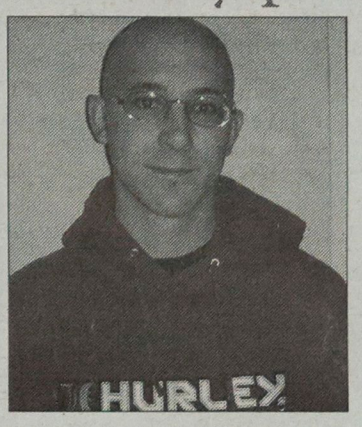


"BORAT, BECAUSE HE IS NICE."

— CHIP SHERWOOD '08

"BORAT WOULD WIN BECAUSE HE LOOKS THE BEST IN A SPEEDO."

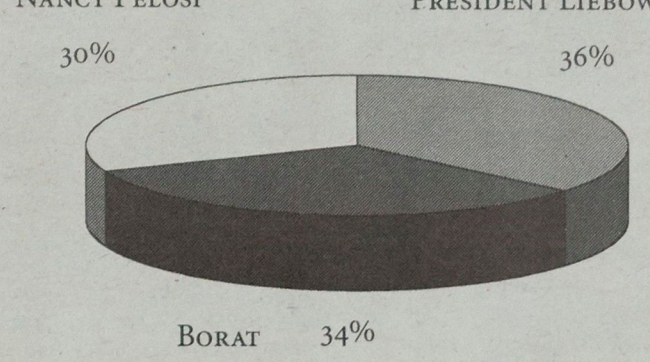
— CAROLINE WADE '09



"NANCY PELOSI, BECAUSE SHE IS THE MOST MANLY OF THE THREE."

— COREY GAGNON '06.5

WHICH NEWSMAKER WOULD WIN IN A FIGHT? NANCY PELOSI, PRESIDENT LIEBOWITZ, OR BORAT



Results taken from online poll: http://www.middleburycampus.com

Next Week's Poll Question: Do you think Middlebury should be a more pedestrian friendly campus?

Letters to the Editor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

where parents are shelling out tens of thousands of dollars annually to educate their children to speak in a language a step above the gutter, it seems somewhat likely that a different and equally forceful cheer could be used. No one has ever accused me of being a "prude," yet it embarrasses me to hear this with young children and grandparents present!

Sincerely,
Tim Hollander '65
Middlebury, Vt.

Intolerance for non-liberal views

To the Editor:

I find many Middlebury students intolerant of views different from their liberal views. Who are they to demand only their voice be heard on campus? I respect Rehnquist. I agree with his judicial perspective. What these students need to understand is all voices have a right to be heard and respected. I find their level of intolerance interesting when that seems to be a concern they have towards the "right." What they need to do is grow-up and get a job that allows them to give back to the school and demand a professorship of the person of their choice!

Sincerely,
Kathleen Duquette
Parent of Middlebury Student

The war in Iraq

To the Editor:

The United States has provided only three official reasons for the war in Iraq: the global war on terrorism, weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and promoting democracy. All have proven to be invalid. The axis of evil President Bush identified in his war on terrorism included Iraq, Iran and North Korea, yet most Islamic fundamentalist groups have come from Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Egypt and Pakistan. Rumsfeld spoke of the imminent dangers of WMDs, but none have been found in Iraq and both North Korea and Pakistan pose more legitimate nuclear threats. The promotion of democracy was only provided as a reason after the initial invasion, and the United States' historical record contradicts such intentions.

With the official reasons illegitimate, actual motives for being in the war must be to preserve the US as the only superpower, to preserve the American way of life, to control vital energy resources like oil and the military-industrial complex, which has made this war highly profitable for many NGOs. These reasons assume cultural superiority, including the opinion that Americans deserve more than the rest of the world. The position that the US is needed for stability assumes a condescending paternalism reminiscent of the white man's burden, and it is inconsistent with the claim to spread democracy and the values of universal human rights and equality. Military power does not equate political influence, as the failure to create a stable government has shown, making ideas of sending more troops and implementing a draft especially preposterous. All motivations for staying the course are rooted in selfishness, and with a continually high death toll and little progress, the only moral option is to leave Iraq immediately.

Sincerely,
Louis Lobe '08
Weston, Mass.

Future in oil is a "no-go"

To the Editor:

There is no consensus, in both the U.S. and Iraq. In the U.S., the fiercely debated issue at stake is: Should the U.S. "go long," "go big" or "go home?" Similarly, in Iraq sentiments mirror those of the U.S. — an Iraqi man says that "it's a disaster if the American forces stay in Iraq but it's also a disaster if they go." This hot dispute persists as innocent lives on both sides are shortened, and all solutions appear untenable.

A crisis, yes, but rooted in a more fundamental quandary. The U.S. must tackle its long term problem of oil dependency. It all boils down to oil, U.S. greed (preserving the "U.S. way of life"), and environmental crises. If VP Cheney can state that "conservation may be a sign of personal virtue, but it is not a sufficient basis for a sound, comprehensive energy policy," then a mandatory governmental policy shift is necessary.

Hopefully, as a result of Congressional leadership's recent alteration, the U.S. will realize what former VP Al Gore identified so long ago: the U.S. must redefine a comprehensive energy policy that incorporates conservation— a personal virtue or not. Improved environmental initiatives, such as alternative energy sources and heightened pollution restrictions, will allow the U.S. to look at Iraq from a purely humanitarian aid perspective without relying on its oil resources. If the U.S. stops worrying about preserving its way of "oil-dependent" life, then perhaps a brighter future can be seen to end fighting and the loss of life, while promoting a greener planet.

Sincerely,
Rachel Rosenfeld '07
St. Louis, Missouri

Rehnquist professorship good idea

To the Editor:

I read the article on the establishment of the Rehnquist Chair at Middlebury with great interest. I attended the College at a time when the Dean of Men was also the local Army Reserve Company commander. One of my Economics professors had served under Rommel in the German Afrika Korps. A History professor (Grant) was delighted that we had a real revolution to observe what was taking place in Cuba (even though it was in the "terror phase" at the time). The College encouraged that discussion of all sides of an issue be practiced politely by a faculty and student body that were diverse both in background and ideas. The term "political correctness" had not yet been invented.

And then something happened. Sam Stratton retired, the war in Vietnam intensified, bad behavior was accepted as the norm and one day a group of students burned down the ROTC building while faculty members watched.

This was very distressing to many of us, particularly those of us who had attended ROTC at Middlebury and had served, or were serving, in the military. It is not possible to estimate how much this has cost the College in alumnae contributions during the last 25 years, but I am guessing it is in the millions.

The Rehnquist Chair is finally a step in the right direction. It does not have to be balanced by a chair selected by the students, but instead should be followed by a chair in Conservative Studies, and then a department with the same title. Does the administration have the courage to solicit funds for such a chair? I think not. Some students (and faculty) might protest, and then demand entry to the President's office. But I hope you prove me wrong. There is plenty of financial support out here for a return to the values of the College we remember.

Sincerely,
John McEwan '61
Meredith, N.H.

Men of Middlebury

To the Editor:

Are you strong enough not to rely on intimidation or violence to get what you want in a relationship?

Are you smart enough to recognize that when 95% of all domestic violence perpetrators are male (NIJ workshop '95), violence against women is and needs to be a men's issue.

Are you daring enough to actively challenge the aspects of traditional masculinity that compromise your integrity?

A passionate collection of Midd men have asked themselves these questions and have responded in a resounding, "YES!" And we know that we need other men in on this conversation. To share our belief in and dedication to anti-violence, we men have chosen to take action and mobilize male consciousness around this issue in conjunction with the internationally observed White Ribbon campaign, an action on violence against women that spans from mid-November until December 6.

We will be camped out in dining halls for several evenings to come, challenging our fellow men of Middlebury to make a life-changing confirmation to themselves and to the world by promising in writing "never to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women," and by wearing a white ribbon until December 6 as a visible and public display of this pledge.

There will be much more to come from this group of men in the near future, like taking our message into local middle schools and high schools in the hopes of preventing violence before it starts, but before we do that and more, we urge you to join us in our cause against violence against women.

Sincerely,
Nick Cloutier '07
Waterville, Maine

New Ag. action now

To Governor Jim Douglas,

With the resignation of Steve Kerr as Secretary of Agriculture, it is now up to you to appoint a new Secretary of Ag. Recently, this post, in recognition of its importance, has been raised from the level of Commissioner to Secretary, as a cabinet position. This fact, and the deep crisis in dairy agriculture at the present time, means that this appointment could be the most critical of the next two years. I have no one person as a candidate for this job, although many different names have come up in conversations with fellow farmers. Instead, I would like to ask you to go outside the usual criterium and set of applicants. This is no time to use past political loyalty, or service in the ag industrial system that has lead directly to this crisis, to fill this position.

The new Secretary is going to have to be able to speak to and for all of the many types of agriculture in this state and heal any false divisions caused by corporate ag. public relations campaigns. The new Secretary must be a peace maker and a unifier.

The first major crisis is that of disastrously low milk prices in the conventional dairy industry. This is the result of a failed policy of the last 50 years of "get big or get out." Large dairies sound like they are efficient, but when all the hidden social and environmental costs are counted, they don't fare as well. One thing that might help in the short run is to change the trucking charges for milk so that the milk companies pay for the hauling of milk to the processing plants, rather than the farmers.

Other long-term strategies that should be looked into are the safe retail sales of raw milk to a willing public, and sales of farm-slaughtered meat. These would help small diversified farms start and grow.

What the state needs is more farmers, not just more cows, and these programs help foster the starting and prosperity of new farms. Another area of concern is the pressure of programs from the federal government, such as Premise Registration, in which places where animals are kept, down to the scale of one chicken, must be registered with the government. This will lead to the National Animal Identification System in which individual animals must have a microchip implanted so that all movements can be tracked. These programs have little public support and are very detrimental to the increasing number of farmers that have the vision of a direct link between consumers and farmers as the future of Vermont agriculture.

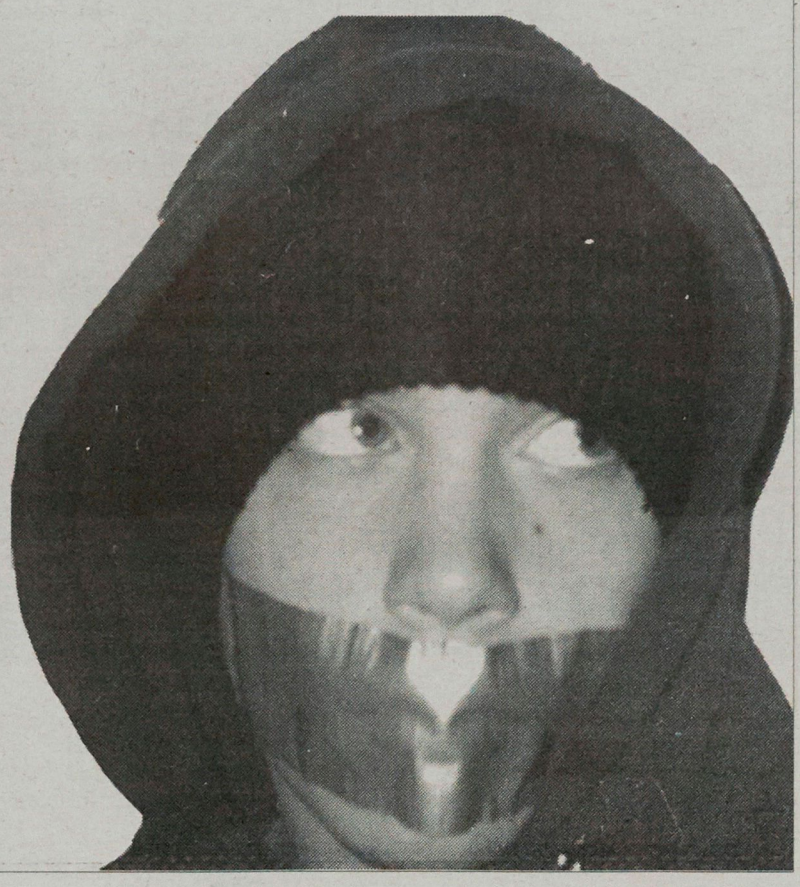
The new secretary should also be someone whom both you and the legislature can work with. The new secretary must have an open mind and listen to all sides, not just recite the party line. This is a chance to make a statesmanlike choice; a choice that recognizes that some segments of Vermont agriculture are in deep crisis while others are prospering. We can continue business as usual and it will get worse, or visionary changes can be started and followed through with, and a strong and prosperous agriculture can arise to help strengthen the whole community of Vermont.

KEN VAN HAZINGA
ORWELL, VT.

Do your friends tell you to shut up?

We'll probably publish it

Submit your opinions to campus@middlebury.edu



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Foreign locales inspire brilliant photos

By Mike Murali
Features Editor

A picture is worth a thousand words. On Tuesday, Nov. 14th, students who studied abroad last year were judged on their artistic aptitude in the 10th Annual Study Abroad Photo Contest. Photos were displayed in the Juice Bar and for the rest of the week students were welcome to vote for their favorite photo.

The photos then travelled to Sunderland, where people could vote for their favorites over the rest of the week. Program Assistant at the Office of Off-Campus Study Christie Jones explained that the contest "celebrates and displays the wide variety of places [where] Middlebury students study abroad."

Each submission came from a student who studied abroad during the 2005-2006 academic year. The submitted photos featured a range of subjects including, according to Jones, "home stays, internships and vacations during program breaks, their classrooms in other countries as well as unique flora and fauna from the countries where they were living and studying." Each student could submit one photo in each of three categories: People, Places and Things. There were 312 submissions in total.

"People were able to submit one ballot (ballots with no name or ballots submitted twice were not counted) with their top choice in each category, Jones said. "The photo with the three highest vote totals won the grand prize, and then there was a first place in each category."

Laurie Griffin

Laurie Griffin '07, winner of the 2006 Study Abroad Photo Contest, captures a moment in her photo, *Penmanship*, partially shown here.

When the votes were tallied, the grand prize went to Laurie Griffin '07 for her submission, *Penmanship*. Taken in a small Tibetan village in Songpan, Sichuan, China, it depicts a young girl sneaking into her classroom to get a seat, with the previous day's penmanship lesson on the board. Griffin said of the photo, "The little girl caught my attention as she went into the room — She very calmly entered the room. I couldn't help but follow her in and see what she was up to. As soon as I realized what she was doing I took the picture as fast as possible so that she wouldn't realize I was there. When people in China realize you are taking a picture of them, they try to pose and you can never capture the true scene. I was very fortunate to catch her before she noticed me, because after that, she, like all of the other kids, wanted me to take another picture and show it to her on the digital screen."

In addition to the grand prize winner, the top three submissions in each category received prizes. For submissions under "People," these were, in order, "Staring at 'La Blanche'" by Emily Adler '08, "Man Praying Before Ganges" by Molly Bowman '07 and "Children of a Dusty Town" by Chris Heinrich '07. For "Places," the top three were "Cape Coast" by Sara Granstrom '07, "The Road to Baghdad" by Nura Suleiman '07 and "Journeying the Tomberg Hole" by Ed Len '07. Under "Things," they were "La Mano" by Sandy Sokoloski '07, "Lefkada" by Anna Murray '07 and "Coming Home Before Dark" by Josh Hendrickson '08.

Adler's photo was taken in the town of Dschang, Cameroon. It de-

See Penmanship, page 17

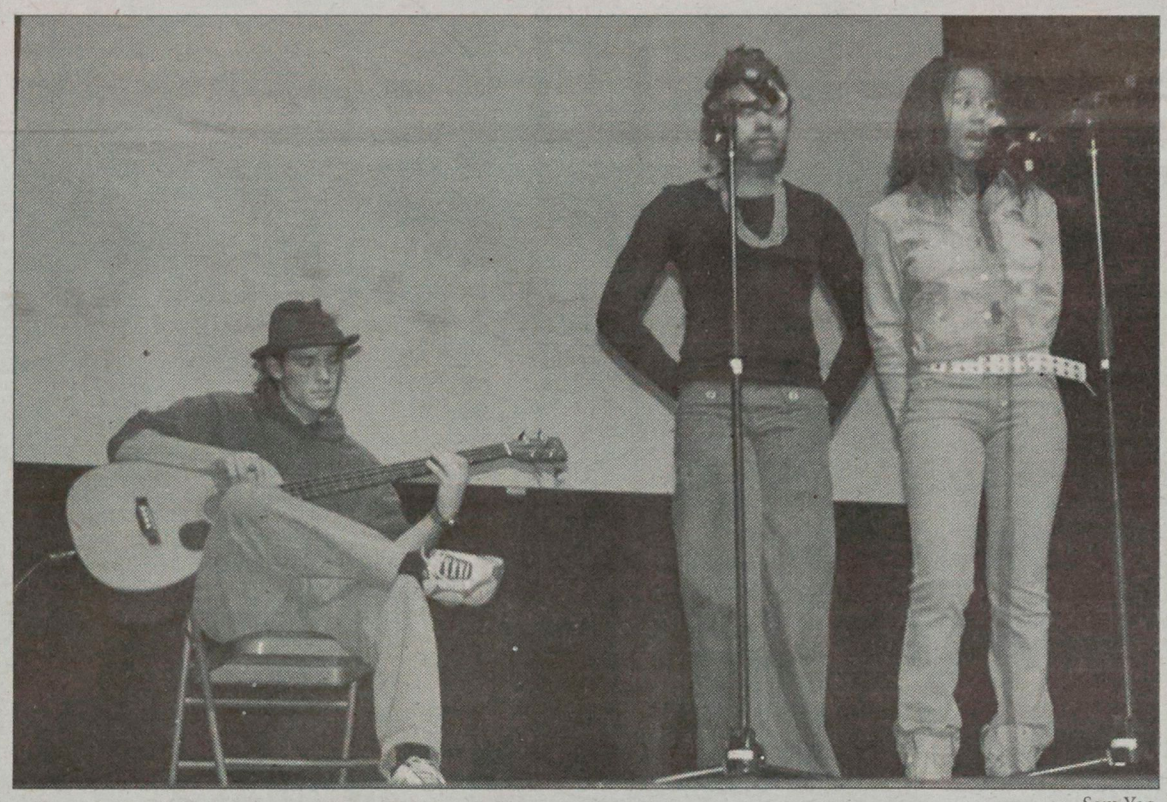
Students unite for a night of culture

By Ilhan Kim
Photo Editor

On the evening of Nov. 18, McCullough Student Center hosted the African American Alliance's (AAA) annual Night of Black Culture. This year's event entitled, "Provoking Thoughts," included a wide array of performances that showcased student talent as well as celebrated the rich heritage of the African American community. The emphasis on poignant solo and duet performances lent the night a cozy, familial atmosphere as the attendees sat close to the stage.

The night began with an introduction from Aifuwa Ehigiator '08, one of the event's organizers, before a clip from Spike Lee's "Mo'Better Blues" was shown. In a conversation between Denzel Washington and Wesley Snipes, the two characters discuss racial matters. Shortly thereafter, Sheyenne Brown '09 recited an untitled spoken word piece that reflected upon her black identity and experiences growing up.

In what may have been the night's most touching performance, ex-death row inmate Darby Tillis played the harmonica and sang the blues with Daniel Sheron '10 accompanying him on the guitar. His lyrics reflected the pain and confusion of being unjustly incarcerated, but also had strong spiritual overtones as Tillis thanked God for saving him from his darkest moments. Tillis was on death row for ten years before his conviction was overturned and he was freed.



Sam Yoo

Andrew Maloney '08, Lindsay Wright '10 and Sparkle Joyner '10 entertain the crowd at the AAA-sponsored event.

In a shift from the somber performance earlier, a humorous segment from Spike Lee's "She's Gotta Have It" was shown, displaying the sexual, sometimes crude nature in which men court women. Sparkle Joyner '10 and Lindsay Wright '10 recited a poem while Andrew Maloney '08 jammed on the bass.

Switching roles, Ehigiator '08 read aloud Rudyard Kipling's "If," a poem his younger brother read at their father's funeral. Ehigiator felt that the poem would resonate strongly, especially among black men, though he admitted that its influence is universal. Then Terry St. Jean '07, in a solo trumpet performance, titled "Practice" blasted away while listening to his iPod. St. Jean told the audience, "I just want to showcase an instrument that has given so many opportunities for black people."

Knef King '08 displayed his lyrical prowess as he free-styled to the beat of Maloney's accompaniment.

Ngeri Shakur, a member of the Texas Death Row group recited poetry. She was followed by Ethiopia Al-Mahdi '09, who read a eulogy while footage from the film "Malcolm X" played in the background. Other performances included the only ensemble piece of the night, in which members of the RIDDIM dance troupe performed an impressively choreographed number. To conclude the night, Kelly Gay '07 sang a gospel song demonstrating his range and ability to move the crowd with his crooning.

Last but not least, the final scene of Spike Lee's "School Daze" concluded the evening's performance. Laurence Fishburne's character tells a school audience about an epiphany he had and tells the students that they need to wake up.

Christopher Heinrich '07, treasurer of AAA and one of the other organizers felt particularly proud of being a part of this performance. As a member of AAA for several years now, Heinrich commented, "The variety of acts in this year's show made it a complete success. Between the guest performers, movie clips, spoken word and talented musicians, the audience was kept entertained and interested."

Edwin Mitchell '09 said, "I thought it was great that some former death row inmates came and gave very powerful performances."

Added Miosotis Perez '07, "The small intimate setting allowed for a better show. Overall, the performances were impressive and touching. The AAA Board this year did a great job."

Paving the Way to Proper Sidewalk Etiquette: A Survival Guide to the Middlebury Paths

—The Situation—

This campus suffers from a disease. People cower in the exits of buildings, looking at the great expanse of land that separates them from their next destination with a mixture of trepidation and outright wet-the-bed fright. Nowadays, braving Battell Beach is harder than storming the beach at Normandy. Landmines?! Try walking past an old crush. Concentrated SS artillery fire at 200 yards?! Try walking by someone you know at 50 yards — do you wave, do you ignore until you are within smiling distance or do you talk to nobody on your cellphone? Invading Russia in winter was easy compared to the complex problems faced by Middlebury students strolling the sidewalk. To remedy the problem, *The Campus* has generously provided you with a few tips to get you back on your feet, walking confidently to class.

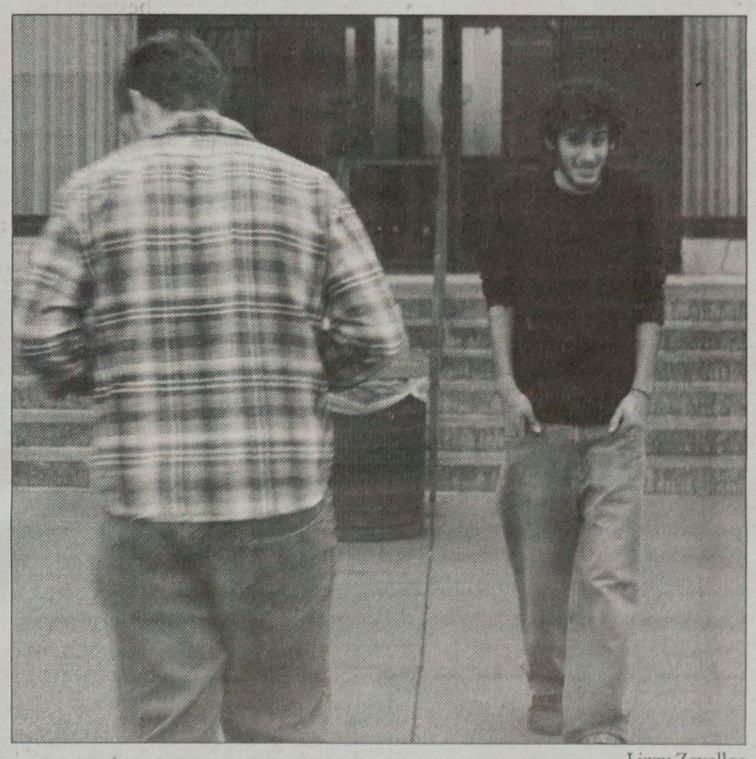
— Andrew Herzik, Staff Writer

—The Person You Know You Don't Know—

People you know you don't know exist in an awkward purgatory-like state. They may be a friend of a friend, an acquaintance you used to say hi to before they went abroad for two years or a friend's hookup that you know way too much about, including their preference for Superman underwear. You know their name, how they did last year in BIO195 and about their penchant for fuzzy Japanese-anime stuffed animal characters. They know your name, your favorite historical figure and, as you correctly suspected, the fact that you've been to the Health Center at least two times this semester for non-illness related "issues." Unfortunately, some silly code of conduct probably invented by the French insists that you may not actually talk until you've been introduced. You may make light banter at a party, but acknowledging them on the sidewalk with anything more than a raising of the eyebrows is strictly forbidden until you have been officially declared friends by either an impartial third party or by Facebook.com.

In the dreaded event that you leave class together, you must proceed to introduce yourself. The question that has placed many a head under the social guillotine and has plagued centuries of sidewalk theorists is: who begins the introduction? Most specialists regard this question as the central crux to sidewalk conventions, and for good reason. However, we at *The Campus* have constructed a handy guide to introductions on the sidewalk:

-If a man and a woman are interacting, the man shall initiate the introduction. Unless the woman is a 'Defensive Feminist,' in which case the man will meekly submit making sure to avoid eye contact and to smile without revealing his teeth.
-If two people of the same gender interact, the taller one shall introduce him/herself. In the event of equal heights, an estimate of weight will suffice. In the event of approximately equal stature, cup size for women and facial hair for men will be the determining factor. If both women are wearing bulky layers, use the general rule of thumb: who would win in a thumb war?
-Important Note: In the event of a standoff, only God (or some derivation) can help you. Perhaps it was not meant to be, and your interactions will forever remain insincere and callous. Good luck!



Lizzy Zevallos

Avoiding any possible eye contact, two students engage in the well-known "look the other direction" tactic, thereby avoiding all social interaction.

Lizzy Zevallos

Excited for their sidewalk embrace, Will Mallett '07.5 and Matt Amoss '07.5 are anything but awkward on the path.

— The Master —

The Campus sat down with Marichal Gentry, Associate Dean of the College. Gentry is widely considered a master greeter who will not hesitate to greet anyone who passes him by, no matter who they are. If you are still unsure of your sidewalk etiquette read on to learn from the master.

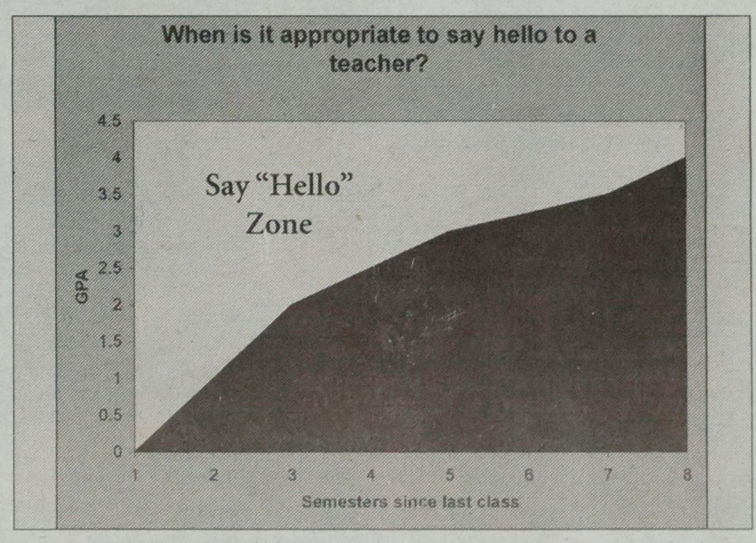
The Campus: How do you do it?
Marichal Gentry: I think it's important to make connections with people even if you don't know them.
TC: Do you really care how I'm doing?
MG: Absolutely, or else what's the point in asking?
TC: I see. Did you, like, get way too many hugs as a child?
MG: Actually, I hug my parents more now that I'm an adult, although my parents always stressed friendliness growing up. My brother's actually worse than me. He waves to everybody he passes while driving. Maya Angelou's speech at the first inauguration of President Clinton in 1992 really influenced me. She wrote a poem that basically stresses the importance of saying hello to people. Here let me look it up, it ends with:
Here on the pulse of this new day/ You may have the grace to look up and out/And into your sister's eyes/ Into your brother's face, your country/And say simply/ Very simply/ With hope/Good morning.
Greeting people helps me sustain relationships and connect in meaningful ways.
TC: Is there anybody on this campus that you would consciously not say hello to?
MG: No, there is nobody on this campus I would not greet in passing.
TC: What about Stalin? Would you say hi to him?
MG: That's a pretty big hypothetical, but I believe everyone is worthy to say hi to. Who am I to not say hello to someone?
TC: Obviously we could all learn a little bit from you. Thank you.

—The Sidewalk Companion—

The sidewalk companion walks through your life on a weekly basis. You do not know this person and yet over the years you have developed a relationship based purely on unassuming smiles that symbolize all that is good in your life. Imagine the scenario: the Green Goblin is holding your sidewalk companion and your mom over a bridge. He drops them both at the same time so you can only save one (assume no spidey powers). Who do you save? A tough pill to swallow, no doubt, but you have to ask yourself, does your mom brighten up an otherwise mundane day whenever you pass her on the way to the library? Does your sidewalk companion nag you about some form you've got at home that you need to fill out? I believe the questions answer themselves (sorry mom, nothing personal). Beware reader, the sidewalk companion is a precious diamond stuck in the can of cat food that is the rest of your social life. Its value diminishes when you try and eat it. Under no circumstances are you to try and make contact with this person. Do not talk or casually sidle on up to them at a party. Great hubris proceeds the fall. Only death and destruction result from trying to turn your sidewalk companion into a friend.

—The Teacher—

Passing the teacher on the sidewalk presents an entirely new set of problems. Not only is the person you're walking by a figure of authority, he's old. He abides by an entirely different set of sidewalk customs that were developed when Taft was still sitting in oversized baths at the White House. Add to the cunundrum the fact that he may be about to go grade your paper and you've got yourself one doozy of a problem. For your convenience we've created an easy guide for dummies. Just follow the basic template below and your day should be a leisurely stroll through the park.



There's a fly in my creme brulée

By Katie Hylas
Columnist

What ever happened to boy meets girl, boy asks girl on date or vice-versa? Very few young lovebirds here at Middlebury get to know each other by "dating." Why has this age-old tradition lost its appeal?

Our culture at Middlebury tolerates two types of male-female relations: drunken hook-ups and long-term relationships. I discussed this topic with a residential life staffer who confirmed this. Dating, potentially a useful middle ground, is forgotten. Unless bumping into someone and dancing at SketchCullough can be considered a "date," it is not a prominent art form on campus.

Apparently, this tragic phenomenon is something that Middlebury students lament. Nick Lefeber '08 said with wistfulness, "The world is changing. Why can't it just be like 'The Notebook?'" Women on campus share this sentiment. They long for romance, creativity and excitement. Instead, both sexes are met with beer-drenched cement floors, numb dance floor groping and germy Solo cups.

So why is this our unsavory romantic fate? Generally, Middlebury students blame the dried-up dating scene on two things: the dearth of new faces and the general isolation of the campus. Chris Hansen '08 reasons, "Dating at Middlebury is hard because it's a small pool and it makes it hard to meet new people." Others complained about the lack of things to do. Sure, there are a few good restaurants and various mountains to climb, but Burlington is 40 minutes away.

Strangely enough, schools that aren't restricted by small populations or distance from any city still don't have big dating scenes. Let's examine the University of Michigan, which has over 25,000 students. Ann Arbor is fraught with trendy eateries and movie theaters. Still, dating is limited. Zach Elyachar, a U of M sophmore student reflected, "When one of my buddies said he was going on a date it was kind of a shock." Students don't date, "unless you count going to a party, getting drunk and hooking up a date," he said. Students at peer schools noted similar trends. For instance, Lea Cali '09 at NYU noted that they, too, lack a prominent dating scene. "I think because of the city scene people are more up to hooking up. It's so fast-paced; you might not meet a person again."

People in our generation shy away from traditional "dating" across the board. Explanations for the tendency, however, conflict. What is the real reason? Maybe we like the idea of dating but are lazy and broke. Maybe we're too busy. Maybe our generation is saving all of its collective "dating" stamina for an inevitable crunch in our late twenties, when we resign ourselves to getting serious about finding a suitable mate. So, we'll plaster our pictures on Match.com in a frenzied attempt to find love.

Again, who knows? But for now, our generation is collectively locked at Middlebury and elsewhere in our "non-date" culture. I wonder where it will take us.

Transfer students find their niches

By Tom Brant
Staff Writer

The college application bug has bitten high school students across the country once again this fall as they decide which of more than 4,000 of the nation's colleges and universities fit them best. For most, the college they choose will be their happy home for the next four years. But a small number of students will choose a school that simply does not fit and will wind up doing something that makes most students shudder — apply to college all over again.

The paths that transfer students follow to arrive at the right school is undeniably long and circuitous. In applying for transfer admission, students have to relive the dreaded college application process, which is further soured by the fact that colleges typically accept far fewer transfer students than those who apply for regular admission. Middlebury alone received 230 applications for transfer enrollment in 2005 and accepted only one of those, according to a College Board survey.

Reasons abound as to why students may find themselves dissatisfied with their current college. They may decide that they do not like the social scene on campus, or that the social opportunities are too limited. Some may attend a well-regarded and academically robust college, only to discover that they do not have anything in common with their fellow students. Perhaps it is bad food or crummy weather that makes college life less than desirable. In short, a whole host of problems can cause students to migrate to greener pastures.

For Britain Hopkins '09, a Barnard sophomore who began her college career at Middlebury last fall, it was not immediately apparent that the College was not a good fit for her.

"I had my first semester at Middlebury and I was absolutely in love with it," Hopkins said. "I felt like there was a great focus on community among the students, and everyone seemed to get along really well."

The same sense of community that drew Hopkins to the College ended up being one of the reasons she left. "One night when I was watching 'Boondock Saints' with some friends, I realized that there was really not that much to do for fun," she said. "All we did when we weren't going out was sit in someone's room and watch a movie."

The College's location in rural Vermont felt limiting to Hopkins, and she found herself yearning for diversions that only a city could provide. She also felt confined by the attitudes of the students, who, she said, too often behaved as though they did not care about what was happening in the world around them.

"The international community at Middlebury was great, but I felt like there was a lack of political activism and that the students were pretty far removed from the outside world, that they weren't really engaged in social affairs," Hopkins explained.

To make matters worse, the drinking scene on campus also disgruntled her. "I found the alcohol issue very alienating — either you had to drink all the time or you didn't drink at all," she said.

When Barnard accepted her as a transfer student, Hopkins decided to attend. Grateful for the college's location in New York City, she has since taken advantage of the many cultural opportunities that the city has to offer. Gradually, she describes, she began to feel more at home there than she had at Middlebury.

While Hopkins ultimately found happiness at Barnard, transferring to another college sometimes causes more problems than it solves, as Ana Cristina Orlando '09 discovered when she transferred to the University of Virginia (UVA) this fall.

She heard about Middlebury from a high school teacher who knew Orlando wanted to study Arabic. The teacher told her that Middlebury has a great language program, which ended up contributing to her decision to enroll.

"I went to Midd because it had one of the best language programs in the country, because it gave me a better financial aid package so it was cheaper to go there than to go to a state school and because I really liked the campus and the school when I visited," explained Orlando about her decision.

Unfortunately, things did not pan out as she had hoped in her first few months at the College. Before the fall semester was over, Orlando was feeling homesick and she was sure she wanted to leave. She made up her mind to transfer to UVA. But her second semester at Middlebury went much more smoothly.

"I ended up liking Midd a lot my second semester, but I still thought that I should give transferring a try since I had been planning on doing it since I got there," Orlando said. "So I left."

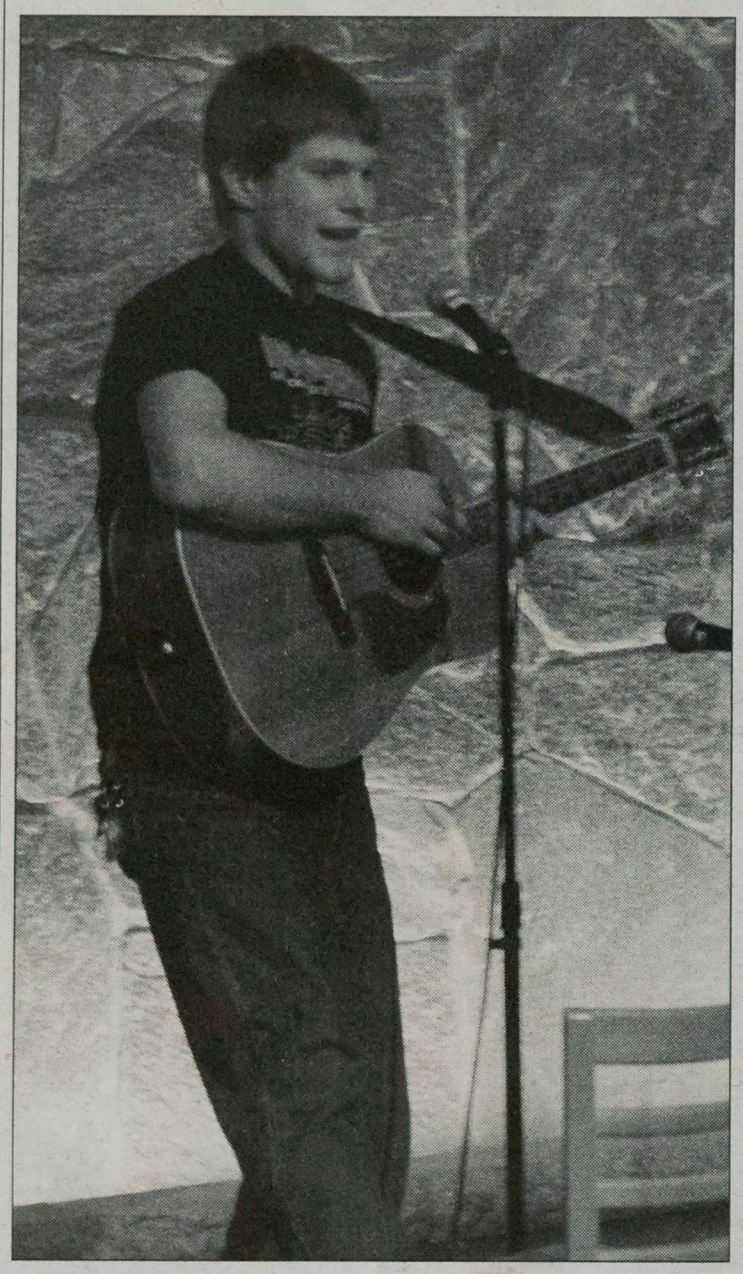
The move turned out to be a mistake, explained Orlando. UVA made her miss everything that she liked about Middlebury — so much that Orlando has since decided to switch yet again and will be returning to Middlebury this spring.

"At big universities, the professors are limited in the time they can devote to their students, and view us as a whole, instead of as individual faces and people," Orlando said. But at Middlebury, she continued, "I was able to get to know my teachers and they were always willing to help in any way possible."

Orlando's sense of place is undoubtedly what all budding college students are searching for the first time around.

For students like Orlando and Hopkins, who ultimately found the schools that they liked best, the transfer process was well worth it. By transfering, Hopkins found a setting and community that was better suited to her extracurricular interests, and, in Orlando's case, transferring made her realize that the grass was greener in her own backyard.

International poetry takes center stage



Nirvana Bhatia

Matthew Van Meter '07 showcases his poetic and musical talents at the International Poetry Night at the Grille.

WINNERS & LOSERS

What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

Thanksgiving Dinner	Thanksgiving Dinner at Proctor
Yay America!	We love it, but when you have this meal 20 times a year it kind of loses its flair.
Global Warming	Global Warming
Keep those polos and shorts on until Christmas!	Forget the Snow Bowl...forever.
Pamela Anderson	Kid Rock
With newfound fame from the Borat movie, you are on top of your game.	We hope you have a sex tape, or else this divorce will finish you.

Lonely student discovers Thanksgiving at Midd

By Thompson Davis
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: This Thanksgiving The Campus *asked Thompson Davis '08 to brave the harsh Middlebury frontier and report on what Thanksgiving is like when the world abandons you. A native of Miami, Florida, Davis was not accustomed to the ways of the cold Middlebury climate. Below, find his account.*

Culturally, Miami is as removed from America as much as, well, I don't know, Spain is. Because there are no seasons, all of the cold weather holidays seem pretty goofy. Simply put, Thanksgiving and Christmas don't matter (Hannukkah is huge). So I decided to take it easy this Thankgiving, save a few bucks on airfare, and stay put for the holiday. Besides, I had to record my debut EP, "Young, Invincible, and Poor," out Dec. 13. I thought things would be great. I'd finally be able to have some "me" time, catch up on some homework and record a watershed album. What could go wrong?

On Thursday I woke up to the sound of eerie silence. Ross was completely devoid of any life, human or animal. I missed the usual bedlam but there were some perks. In the bathroom I let go completely. I let the toothpaste run down my chin instead of self-consciously hoarding it in my cheeks, and after my shower I was able to air dry by sprinting naked through the halls. It was extremely effective. Things were looking up. In the studio the album was shaping up great because there were no distractions. I was getting used to this ghost town.

However, things took a turn for hungry around 7 p.m. I was famished and since I had exhausted what had seemed to be an endless supply of spearmint/menthol lozenges, I parka'd up, and decided to brave the elements to find sustenance. I wandered about campus raving and screaming like a lunatic hoping that someone would take me in, but alas, no one could hear me scream (did I make a sound?). It was quite distressing to be so alone.

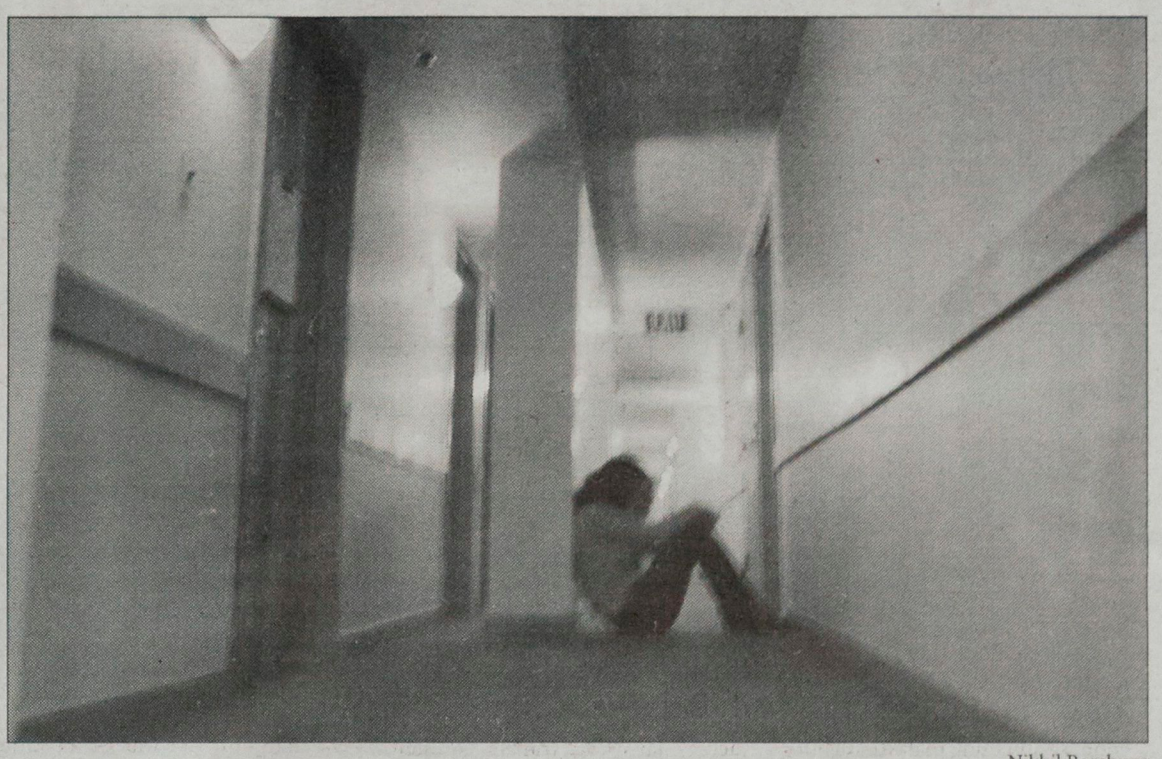
Finally, having endured what seemed like years of cold and wandering, I had an epiphany and decided to make the trip down the hill. You see, there is this house down there called Weybridge, and the College gives them, like, a million dollars a year to buy food so I figured I would find something. I made the trip and when I got there I saw a light on in the kitchen! My heart leapt!

But alas! The beacon of hope was a trick! On the kitchen table was a fresh loaf of hot organic bread, but when I tried to open the door I found it to be locked. And I cried tears, but tears do not open locks. I sped away on my bike furious and delirious from hunger. What kind of Thanksgiving was this? What the heck did I have to be thankful for?

I would have continued to feel sorry for myself had I not hit the curb and fallen into the street. Luckily, I only hurt my hand, but it hurt a lot.

But then, a Thanksgiving miracle happened. As I sat there in the middle of the street nursing my cold, bloody hand I suddenly heard a voice. It was a soothing lyrical voice full of empathy and goodness. The voice came from a young gent with jet-black hair, who was more aptly dressed for the harsh winter than I. He seemed very friendly and he turned out to be a Middlebury student hailing from India. Like the settlers long ago, I rejoiced in his companionship.

I followed him to what he called "Jewitt" and, lo and behold, there we found many eager eaters. We ate curry and rice with our hands. It was heavily spiced, very hot and extremely delicious. Much better tasting than turkey and gravy. But it wasn't all about the food. My fellow diners proved to be excellent dining companions. In the end, instead of going through the rote motions that usually constitute your typical Thanksgiving, I was able to expand my cultural horizons and be genuinely thankful for the brotherhood that resides within the human spirit. Isn't that what Thanksgiving is really about?



Nikhil Ramburn

Resounding with silence, a sparse Ross hallway omniously waits for some sign of life over Thanksgiving break.

Penmanship takes top prize

Continued from page 14

picts several sets of eyes staring out of a hole in a rush covering, children fascinated with seeing a white person. Says Adler, "I chose the picture for exactly this reason: It was nothing extraordinary, and it was something I experienced daily." Granstrom's picture was also a shot depicting daily experience, though perhaps not her daily experience. It captured fishermen and fishing boats along the beach of Cape Coast, Ghana in the shadow of a former slave castle.

Len's picture proved to be somewhat more spur-of-the-moment, capturing a tourist in the Franz Joseph Glacier in New Zealand. Murray's picture was also taken by chance, showing a boat submerged in water on the quiet island of Lefkada in Greece, removed from the bustle of Athens.

Prizes for the contest came from numerous college organizations and businesses including the Office of Off-Campus Study, Milne Travel, the Middlebury College Store, the Language Schools, American Flatbread, Forth 'n Goal, Eat Good Food, the Center for the Arts, Bimini Bill's Salon, Mr. Up's and Lightning Photo.

Regardless of whether or not the contestants won prizes, each student who submitted a photo to the contest revealed a unique part of the country in which he studied. A different view of the world was captured through the eyes of a camera, and the ordinary was made extraordinary.

Sandy Sokoloski

Revealing her mastery of photography, Sokoloski captures a large hand in Uruguay, in her shot, *La Mano.*

Lizzy Zevallos

Introducing: The Middlebury Campus' Weekly Caption Contest!

Each week we supply a photo in need of a witty, original or creative caption.

We're asking you, our loyal features readers, to e-mail your entries to jbergan@middlebury.edu or ambaker@middlebury.edu each Sunday evening by 5 p.m.

The following week we will print the old photo and the top entry. We look forward to your submissions!

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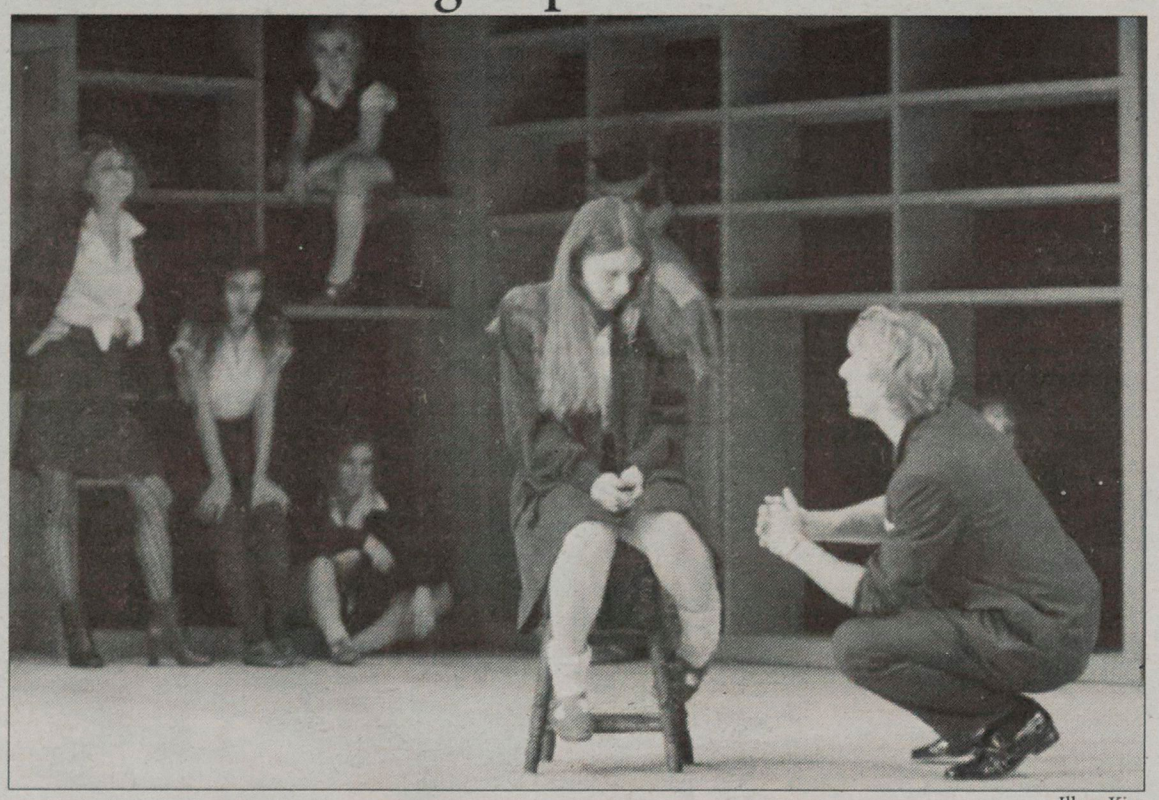
THIS FILM FINISHES MORE WITH A WHIMPER THAN A BANG

Cinders ignites dramatic response

A dark comedy that burns lasting impressions on audiences

By Ben Salkowe
Editor in Chief



Ilhan Kim

Bill Army '07 cajoles Leah Bevis '09 into revealing her family trauma for his documentary film. Set in an all girls reform school in Poland during the 1980s, "Cinders" pushes the boundaries of audience expectation.

In "Cinders," Janusz Glowacki's dark comedy about Poland in 1981, characters say one thing and do another. The director tells the state he will film a reform school's production of "Cinderella" for a charming piece of socialist propaganda, but he actually intends to make a bizarre documentary of the girls' tragic lives that will win him national acclaim. The deputy head of the reform school tells the director that he wants the best for the girls, but then he manipulates and rapes them by night. The lead girl, Cinderella, tells the deputy head that she does not want to cause drama, but ends up slashing her wrists and collapsing in a pool of blood in the play's final moments. This widespread "doublespeaking" leaves audience members with the confident feeling that the playwright himself must have been "doublespeaking" when he wrote the play. If every simple act or statement is in fact a thin disguise for some cynical truth, shouldn't "Cinders" as a whole have some hidden meaning between the lines?

But "Cinders," as the theatre department presented it just before break, was not a well-crafted allegory. Rather it was a maddening patchwork of disconnected mockeries of the totalitarian Polish state. And what was most puzzling for me was whether Alex Draper '88, the director and visiting assistant professor of theatre, intended to make the production such a puzzle, or whether he just forgot to answer all these questions. The show was provocative and well done, but it left the viewer wondering if this was by accident or design.

But we should backtrack. However baffling the production may have been at times, it was also brilliant. The 19-member cast included an unusual mix of comedic, dramatic and first-time Middlebury student actors. Nearly half the company said fewer than ten words the entire evening, placing the emphasis of the performance on five leads: the school's principal (MacLeod Andrews '07.5), deputy head (Lucas Kavner '06.5), the film director (Bill Army '07) and two girls known only by their names in the school's play, Cinderella (Julia Proctor '06.5) and the Prince (Justine Katzenbach '08.5).

The play follows the directors' attempt to film the girls' production of "Cinderella," interjecting the film with interviews about the girls pasts. But when Cinderella refuses to cooperate, the director and deputy head collaborate to make things "uncomfortable" for her, by framing Cinderella as a squealer.

As the "hot" film director, Army literally "out-smoked" every other member of the cast. The veteran Middlebury actor leveraged his deft handling of the cancer sticks and a command of the stage to create a character that was at once suave, slimy and despicable. Although Army's performance was fully awkward in the beginning — in both voice and physicality he seemed out of place as the smooth westerner who makes the girls swoon — his character took off as the director turned dark with a predatory manner that sent chills through the audience.

As the school's administrators, Andrews and Kavner played the good-bad duo. Andrews was the bumbling fool of a bureaucrat who, however well-meaning and likable, failed to see the deputy head's cruel campaign against Cinderella. Kavner as the weak and detestable deputy head led an incredibly dark but funny scene that comprised the play's most powerful parody of the Polish state. Striding in to compliment the girls on a dreary song they had written about their sad prison lives, Kavner proceeded to piece-by-piece rewrite the song into a cheery salute to nonsensical happiness — all the while telling them it should be them who made the rewrites.

But the most interesting creations were the performances of the reform school girls. Raw and unpolished, they often delivered lines upstage or failed to project, but they were fascinating and they were real. Sporting a punk get-up and a hairdo that registered in at 6'4", Katzenbach literally towered over the rest of the cast as the girls' ringleader. We never quite understood why the Prince was so compliant until she finally said in one of the final scenes that she was just doing what was necessary to get out of the reform school. But Katzenbach's voice, which would turn from innocent girl to grating street-punk at a moment's notice, and her hyena-like laugh, defined her character as both cruel and engrossing.

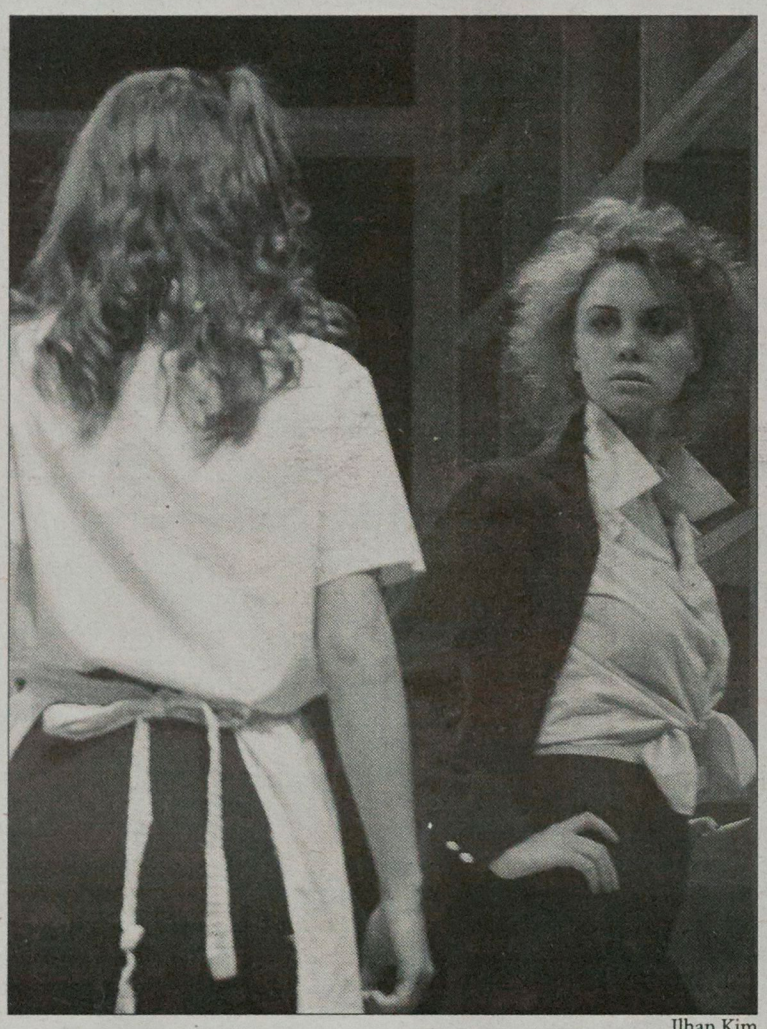
Proctor's Cinderella was a more complicated character. Although the logical direction might have been for the girl to be the Prince's foil — a likable dissident destroyed by the totalitarian society — Cinderella was often as miserable and unlikable as the "bad" guys. Proctor's intonation struck the detached voice of a loner who had lost touch with the world, but her lines suggested a girl who was in fact more compassionate and in touch with reality than any other character. This clash was only resolved in her gruesome downfall that left many in the audience shielding their eyes as she tore her body apart.

Of the other girls, both Molley Kaiyoorawongs '09 as the Stepmother and Leah Bevis '09 as "Toerag" stood out — Kaiyoorawongs for her dry humor and Bevis for the sad conviction with which she polished the Prince's shoes using her hair and spit.

The costuming was, as usual, excellent, but the set felt disconnected from the play. For a play that literally reduces the central character to cinders of a human being and is set in a totalitarian state that is the cinders of a democratic society, the set and lighting only half-heartedly embraced the mood. Either they awkwardly mimicked the action — such as when the backdrop bluntly turned red at the end of the play — or they were completely detached from the production — which would be a good characterization of the IKEA-esque, clean and oddly attractive reform school set that was hardly used by the staging.

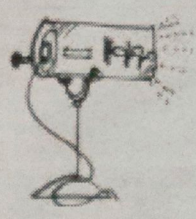
Whatever the technical flaws, "Cinders" was the department's boldest production in recent years, but this brings us back to my frustration — the number of unanswered questions the show dumped on the audience's lap. Draper's program offered no explanation for the production beyond saying that it took place in 1980's Poland, near Warsaw. Even in the program's biography of Janusz Glowacki, Draper chose not to mention that Glowacki was a political dissident who wrote the play in exile. And the production hardly gave us more answers: Why the fairy tale Cinderella? Why produce this play today? What is Glowacki trying to tell us? Either there was an intent not to give the audience the whole story, or someone was lazy.

There is an old artistic-philosophical question about a painter who paints a mediocre canvas, sends it by mail and the delivery-men accidentally damage the package so terribly that the entire work is distorted and twisted into some abstract creation that is, actually, more beautiful and meaningful than it was ever intended to be. I am not convinced that Draper and his cast intentionally chose to leave as many unanswered questions as they did, but those unanswered questions were part of what made it so engaging and provocative.



Ilhan Kim

Julia Proctor '06.5 and Justine Katzenbach '08.5 face-off in this dramatic scene highlighting the palpable tension expertly executed by the two actors.



Spotlight on...Thompson Davis

Thompson Davis '08 is a music major who has migrated to frigid Middlebury College from hot and sultry Miami, Florida. He is a triple-threat performer armed with a musical knowledge as eclectic as his demeanor, able to wear the hat of DJ, musician and producer all interchangeably. A member of numerous bands since high school, Davis combines his musicianship and production talents in various endeavors from a variety of DJ-ing gigs to his creative work on solo and group projects. *The Campus* talks with this jack-of-all trades, who is distinguished by his neon clothing and high-energy personality, about his upcoming releases as well as his future in the music industry.

Chris Heinrich

***The Middlebury Campus:* How did you first get involved in DJ-ing?**

Thompson Davis: Well, that's a funny story. It started my sophomore year of high school when I was the singer of this band, Blue Light Special, and we got our first gig at this girl's 16th birthday party — you know it's a big one — and they made me buy a big PA system, which is basically just an effin' large speaker. After that I would always throw parties throughout high school, and then this past summer some friends got me a gig in a club in downtown Miami. I promoted it myself and all my friends came, so it was a relative success. I guess you could say that was my first professional DJ-ing gig.

***TC*: What genres of music do you usually play, and do you use turntables?**

TD: I just cater to the audience really. I work with a lot of different genres, and usually the audience isn't too sophisticated so I'll just play hip-hop or house music. Occasionally I'll throw in electro or pop music, but I'm not going to get too esoteric. I think WRMC's party Velvet was really cool because the audience was a little more knowledgeable in terms of its taste of music, and the DJs had the luxury of playing songs that normally wouldn't make it on rotation. I would love to see that happen more often. In terms of turntables, collecting vinyl is super romantic — you have to devote your life to it and it's a lot more money spent. So when it comes to vinyl, I don't do it, but I do use CD turntables on occasion.

***TC*: I understand that in addition to being a DJ you are also a member of two bands. What sorts of projects are you currently working on?**

TD: Currently I'm in this band called Black Beach with a friend from back home. We were actually here this summer recording, and one of the singles got a little exposure on a blog — nothing big, but we're developing a sound. In terms of what I'm doing here, I'm working on a solo release as well as playing with a band. The band is called Pluto, which has a lot of kitschy appeal, because Pluto isn't a planet anymore — how ironic. Because, you know, Pluto is the god of death and now, the whole concept of Pluto as a planet is dead. Wow, mind blowing. Our album *Pluto Is Not a Planet* is scheduled to drop on December 13th and it's basically inspired by desperation and profound hopelessness.

***TC:* What inspired you to launch a solo project as well as perform in Black Beach and Pluto?**

TD: Well, my solo outlet is in interests that just wouldn't fit in the band's repertoire and aesthetic, which for all extents and purposes is "indie-rock." I just love music production in general, and I wanted to explore hip-hop, R & B, electronic and house as well. My solo album, *Young, Invincible and Poor* will also hopefully be released on December 13th. It's all Thompson, all the time. I can play with some facility guitar, bass, keyboard, drums, but I'm still forming my sound and I need feedback on it. I'm too ambitious and I just need to scale down my ambitions and focus on a sound. There are a lot of failed attempts, but it's fun.

***TC*: Do you believe that a job in the music industry is a definite career path for you?**

TD: All the avenues are open. I know it's very difficult to get into the industry and the chances are quite slim, but I can't imagine doing anything else, and I can't do anything else well. I am really interested in music production. I'm actually the head of the recording studio here at Middlebury and I produce all my own endeavors. I also spent a semester away at Tisch in NYU studying music production with Jim Anderson, who has won nine Grammy Awards. It was a great program: I got to work behind a real console with very well-qualified and passionate faculty. I had every intention of staying at Tisch and not coming back to Middlebury College, but strangely enough, I wasn't happy in the city. I enjoy production as much as performing and writing songs — it's just another aspect of what I do.

— Melissa Marshall

Piano Prodigy conquers the classical masters

Ilhan Kim

Taiwanese pianist Pei Yao Wang, the youngest pianist ever to receive the overall First Prize in the Taiwan National Piano Competition, leads a group of talented young string musicians in a refined perfomance of classical masterpieces by Mozart, Schumann and Shostakovich. These virtuosos charmed the audience with their precision, cohesiveness and youthful energy.

FOR THE RECORD

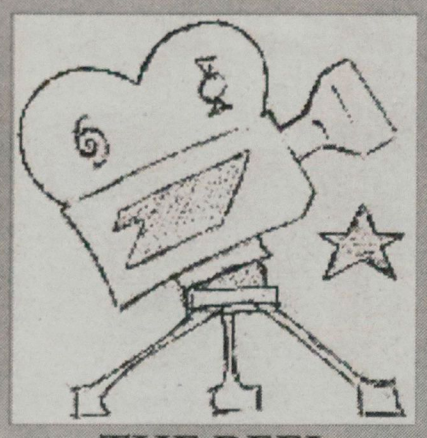
by Melissa Marshall

These are the times that try men's souls. As if the hectic-ness of the holiday season featuring all the trimmings of fighting for parking spots, battling for the last perfectly designed Gap scarf at 20 percent off and forming think tanks using your fellow classmates in order to invent something to give to your grandmother who has everything wasn't enough; we also have to concern ourselves with endless papers and comprehensive examinations — all without the use of our brains that decided somewhere between connecting flights back to school that they would rather spend the month of December in Aruba than artic-inspired Vermont. However, you can stave off that nervous breakdown until after J-term because the birth of Jesus Christ is not the only miracle to celebrate this season — singers/songwriters Damien Rice and Joseph Arthur have decided to bless the music scene with new albums that will make you cry not out of frustration but out of appreciation for their divinely-inspired beauty.

9, the second full-length release from Ireland's darling, Damien Rice, was sent out into the world on November 14th and, surprisingly, is still somewhat under the radar. Released over three years after the critically acclaimed *O*, Rice's sophomore attempt clings to the same wispy vocals and haunting string arrangements that propelled *O* to folk fame. But it also wanders to other instruments, relying more heavily on the acoustic guitar and the piano as well as experimenting with the electric guitar as seen in, "Me, My Yoke, and I," which could be considered Rice's first rock song. In his pursuit of originality, unfortunately, he ambles onto the path of pretentiousness, moseying down a lyric lane paved with obscurity and lines that hover between laughable and embarrassing. While *O* provided listeners with the poignant poetry of "Volcano," "The Blower's Daughter" and "Cheers Darling," *9* delivers such infamous hooks as "The girl who does yoga/When we come over" found in "Dogs." Or perhaps the memorable refrain, "Does he drive you wild/Or just mildly free," which hopefully sounded more moving in Rice's head than on the track "Accidental Babies." The other disappointment of Damien Rice's follow-up is the absenteeism of his female counterpart Lisa Hannigan. While her lingering vocals laced *O* with an unforgettable melancholy, she merely bookends *9*. However, Hannigan's stellar performance on "9 crimes," the first single from the new release, makes up for her silence on the rest of the album. "9 crimes," driven by a weeping cello and strained choral composition, is perhaps one of Rice's greatest artistic triumphs. And even though the rest of *9* does not quite follow in the footsteps of its opening track, the acoustic guitar-motivated "Coconut Skins," the soothingly repetitive "Me, My Yoke, and I" and the whisper to scream ballad "Elephant" all add to a solid sophomore effort. It may pale in comparison to *O*, but it still showcases Damien Rice's indisputable talent and established position as one of this decade's greatest songwriters.

In 1997, while Damien Rice was strumming the initial chords of an unpolished "Volcano," Joseph Arthur had just released his first full-length album, *Big City Secrets*. Arthur describes his music as "someone struggling to heal over experimental folk-rock," and in his September 2006 release, *Nuclear Daydream*, it is clear that the struggle is over but the wounds have not yet healed. "Black Lexus," one of the standout tracks off the album, is wrought with earnest emotion and nostalgia while the raw "When I Was Running out of Time" features a longing acoustic guitar and wistful lyrics in the tradition of Neil Young. And with other impressive tracks such as "Too Much to Hide" and the Dylan-esque title track, *Nuclear Daydream* is indicative that Joseph Arthur may be slowly meandering in the footsteps of the aforementioned Young and Dylan, as well as the legendary genius of Springsteen and Joel.

So curl up in one of the infamously cozy chairs in the library, treat yourself to a cup of Chai and let your stress slip into the tranquil tone of Rice's tortured vocals and the comforting chords of Arthur's guitar — your problems will seem less unbearable after listening to their dejected tales of heartbreak and deception set to mollifying melodies.



THE REEL CRITIC

by Josh Wessler

MOVIE | VOLVER
DIRECTOR | PEDRO ALMODOVAR
STARRING | PENELOPE CRUZ, CARMEN MAURA, LOLA DUENAS, ANTONIO DE LA TORRE

If you've ever wondered how the Amazons survived without any men, just watch a Pedro Almodóvar film. In his latest, "Volver," Spanish for "to return," the acclaimed Spanish filmmaker brings us to an Amazonia in the heart of Madrid. It takes a lot to be a man in this movie — most end up dead. Even the good guys seem to simply float away. Not that the men didn't leave an impact when they were there. The women dominate, but they're busy assessing the damage the men left behind. The movie is, in the true sense of the word, a chick flick. Unlike the worst of the genre (which seems to include pretty much all of such categorized flicks), this film is about women crossing barriers and breaking stereotypes, not engendering them.

"What you don't know doesn't kill you, but if it does, there's always a chance to come back and make it right," may as well be the subtitle to "Volver." It explores the purgatorial space in between waking and death. After her death, Irene (Carmen Maura) comes back to live with her daughter, Sole (Lola Dueñas). The only problem is that she can't tell her other daughter, Raimunda (Penélope Cruz), because of a falling-out a few years before. Raimunda has problems of her own, however. Her budding daughter has caught the lustful eye of Paco (Antonio de la Torre), Raimunda's husband. Succumbing to the fate of most other men in the film, he soon ends up dead. The movie takes place in the wake of Paco's death, but there are few tears spilt. More importantly, Agustina (Blanca Portillo), Raimunda's pot-smoking hometown friend, reports seeing Irene's ghost haunting the town. At first Raimunda attributes it to Agustina's home-grown chemotherapy, but after a few corroborating reports, she begins to suspect a darker secret.

Penelope Cruz's only mistake may be that she is too perfect. Her presence dominates the screen and she draws attention like a magnet (due in no small part to a skimpy clothes budget). Immediately, we're left wondering why she's stuck with Paco, one beat short of the classic sexual predator (and one beer short of an abusive relationship). This is where the movie breaks down. Like the rest of the women in "Volver," Raimunda lives by the philosophy of her friend: "We take care of our dirty linen at home." There's no need to involve the police when your husband drops dead. The male detectives would probably botch it anyway. But, if she's so

Courtesy

strong to begin with, why bother with men like Paco? The problem is not Almodóvar's message in "Volver;" it's that he doesn't fully convince us. In earlier Almodóvar movies, such as "Todo Sobre Mi Madre," there was a level of absurdity that justified the alternate universe he created. He attempts the same thing here, but with a more "normal" set of characters.

Though Cruz is obviously the center of Almodóvar's attention, this should not overshadow some other wonderful performances. Lola Dueñas' Sole looked as if she just left a sleep study where they wake you every 20 minutes to see how you respond. Her character's name means loneliness in Spanish, and she's more than happy to spend the rest of her time running an illicit hair salon out of her bathroom. We can sense that something is missing in her life, and Dueñas plays the part without changing the tone of the film. Yohana Cobo is also excellent as Raimunda's prematurely wise daughter, Paula. She is old enough to understand everything that is happening around her, and we can't help but think that, for better or for worse, she is still destined to inherit the problems of the women in her life.

Almodovar's experiments with gender roles were clearly influenced by Spanish literary themes found in works such as *La Casa de Bernarda Alba* by Federico García Lorca. Yet most of his films double as social shockers — taunting conservative society with loose morals and alternative lifestyles. In "Volver," he dangles a generous helping of controversy in front of us. But, in the end, we're left with just a taste, wishing for a whole bite.

Urinetown scores a royal flush with audiences

MCMP's musical production has crowd wetting its pants in laughter

By Sara Jameson
Staff Writer

Last weekend in the Hepburn Zoo, passionate actors, shouting in protest and crying for revolution, demanded the right for their inherent privilege to pee. Directed by Maegan Mishico '08.5, the Middlebury College Musical Players' production of "Urinetown's" out-of-the-ordinary humor and talented performance was anything but mundane.

This popular Broadway musical is set in a town plagued by a 20-year drought, making water so scarce that public toilets have been banned. At the mercy of a single, dominating corporation led by Cladwell B. Cladwell (Mike Tierney '09.5), which maintains a monopoly on the single public toilet, the townspeople are forced to pay ridiculously high tariffs and taxes to carry out their basic needs. However, out of the masses of destitute citizens arises a hero, Bobby Strong (Mike West '09.5), who proceeds to lead his fellows against the tyranny of Urine Good Company, falling in love with Cladwell's daughter Hope (Kristen Faiferlick '10) along the way.

Drawing from musicals such as "West Side Story" and "Les Miserables," this comedy features a humorous satire of the corporate world as well as numerous parodies of traditional theatre conventions — even poking fun at itself. "Urinetown" was nominated in 2002 for ten Tony awards and walked away with wins for best director, best original score and best book for a musical. The actors took full advantage of this acclaimed musical's script and score. Chelsea Minton's '08.5 portrayal of Little Sally was especially potent. Playing a young child is difficult enough, but playing the role with humor is even more impressive. Minton had the audience laughing at almost every line due to her outstandingly dynamic voice and comical facial expressions. The stage chemistry between Minton and Patrick Martinez '09, who played Officer Lockstock, was also exceptional. Martinez, who excelled at the duel role of playing a cocky and witty police officer as well as the cynical narrator of the show, also worked remarkably well with the cute and loveable Little Sally. The two were obviously at ease with their roles and kept the energy going throughout the play.

In addition to the commanding leads, the chorus was also extremely strong; even cameos by Claire Graves '09.5 (Little Becky Two Shoes, Mrs. Millennium) and Felipe Sanchez (Old Man Strong, Hot Blades Harry) executed their parts with infectious enthusiasm and tremendous talent.

The flow of "Urinetown" was generally steady, with only a few awkward moments. The energy remained high from start to finish, a great feat for such a relatively small cast. The opening number, "Urinetown," kicked off the show with a bang, highlighting the powerful voices of the chorus. The pit orchestra demonstrated notable talent under the direction of Amanda Kleinman '09, especially keyboardist DaWeon Ryu '10 who surprisingly received the score only six days before the show. Overall, the music was dynamic, though sometimes the instruments drowned out the singers' voices, making the lyrics indistinguishable.

Under the direction of Ellie Molyneux '08, the show's choreography provided constant amusement and vigor to the musical numbers. In "Cop Song," the blocking was particularly effective as the officers performed their synchronized dance moves, exuding the hilarity of their debonair perception of themselves.

The show received positive audience reactions, especially in response to Mischico's direction.

Starrett Berry '09 commented, "I was very impressed with the performance of "Urinetown." Maegan did a fantastic job at directing the whole cast. She brought out each character's own little quirks, making the entire cast a pleasure to watch."

Sally Swallow '07 said, "I was so impressed by the way Director Maegan Mishico used the Zoo space to its fullest. She took hold of the studio's expansive feel in multiple ways, leaving each new moment full of momentum and rarely feeling static. I suppose that's what I liked most about MCMP's production of "Urinetown" — each scene brought a new energy forward, enough to keep 50 or so people in plastic seats smiling and entertained for two hours. And, of course, the chutzpah that the cast had was a good indication that they were having a pretty enjoyable time as well."

MCMP's "Urinetown" was an immense hit. Abounding with energy and talent, the cast, orchestra and production team excelled at creating a truly entertaining and clever show.

Nirvana Bhatia

"Urinetown" examines the darker side of human nature with a comic twist, as demonstrated in one of the final scenes of the satirical comedy in which the townspeople try to avenge their leader's murder by disposing of their hostage.

ISO Cultural Show bursts the Middlebury bubble

Ilhan Kim

Friday, November 17th marked the 2006 unveiling of the ISO (International Student Organization) Cultural Show, "Around the World in a Night" — a cultural extravaganza showcasing cultural and ethnic traditions from around the world. The show is an annual crowd-pleaser, and this year, in response to popular demand, for the first time, ISO offered two shows: a showcase at 5:30 p.m., highlighting one act from each region, and the 8 p.m. main event. The night kicked off with a colorful fashion show as students strutted down the runway in striking national costumes from Asia, Africa, South America and Europe. Next dance numbers included Filipino Tinikling, Irish Step Dancing, Hawai'ian Hula, Chinese Ribbon Dance and Middle Eastern Dabke, followed by instrumental performances by the Persian setar and santour and the Scottish bagpipes, and finally with Martial Arts demonstrations and a video segment from the Dominicans and Puerto Ricans. Led by Cultural Show Chairs Nirvana Bhatia '07, Chi Zhang '09 and Clairis Mungwa Tsang '09, Bhatia highlighted the goals for the multicultural event:

"The annual ISO Cultural Show provides students with a chance to not only present their own traditions, but to explore the other cultures representated here at Middlebury as well. We hope that the show provides the community with a night of entertainment that exposes them to the practices of other cultures. At the same time, the show gives us students a chance to delve into our own heritages and produce a piece that is meaningful for us. For the most part, we don't go around dancing to Bollywood songs, or working out martial arts routines, so it's an opportunity for the students to learn something about our cultures as well. Furthermore, each act is open to any student, regardless of where they come from — that's why you have Venezulans in the Bollywood piece and Indians in the Filipino piece! The ultimate goal of the show is really for the students who are in it to have fun, to laugh, to bond with their fellow students, and for the audience to enjoy the splendor of the night."

Editors' A&E picks

for the week of 11/30 - 12/6

30

THE BALTIMORE WALTZ
Thurs. and Sat. at 8 p.m. and Fri. at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. in Hepburn Zoo
Tickets $1
Waltz through the doors of the Hepburn Zoo this weekend to see "The Baltimore Waltz," a play by Pulitzer-Prize winning playwright, Paula Vogel, and the senior work of Caitlin Dennis '06.5 (directing) and Julia Proctor '06.5 (acting). When Anna (Proctor) is diagnosed with a bizarre terminal disease called Acquired Toilet Disorder, she and her brother embark on an epic journey through Europe in search of a cure. Combating sadness with humor, this production will provide both laughs and introspection.

01

FALL DANCE CONCERT
Fri. and Sat. at 8 p.m. in the Center for the Arts Dance Theatre
Tickets $5/4/3
Celebrate dance students in their annual fall performance. This year, the evening will provide works by advanced student choreographers as well as introduce new Dance Artist in Residence, Tiffany Rhynard. Imaginative, energetic and innovative, this show will leave audience members invigorated.

01

SEPOMANA: FEATURING ANDREW BIRD
9 p.m. - 12 a.m. in McCullough Hall
Tickets $8 this week and $10 at the door
For this year's installment of the much-awaited Sepomana, WRMC brings sweet-voiced singer-songwriter Andrew Bird to the McCullough stage. Whimsical vocals, twangy fiddle and carefree whistling combine in this Chicagoan's unique, enchanting sound. Supporting Bird will be the utterly danceable riffs of indie-electro rock trio Mobius Band and the pulsing Bowie-esque anthems of Baby Dayliner. Sepomana offers a rare opportunity to see some of today's most original, dynamic artists, don't miss it.

02

HIRSCHFIELD FILM: THE PASSENGER
8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. in Dana Auditorium
On assignment in North Africa, journalist David Locke (Jack Nicholson) assumes the identity of a dead stranger, Robertson, in hopes of escaping his own faltering life. Following Robertson's plans, Locke meets up with a girl, "the passenger," and the two unstable characters are hunted across Europe in Michelangelo Antonioni's disturbing, sublime, suspenseful drama.

03

PAUL JACOBS ORGAN RECITAL
3-5 p.m. in Mead Chapel
Tickets $15/12/5
Renowned organist Paul Jacobs comes to Middlebury to exercise his musical virtuosity upon Mead Chapel's own grand Gress-Miles organ. Jacobs, in his early 20s, is the Chairman of the Organ Department at The Juilliard School and has played Messiaen and Bach masterpieces to enthusiastic audiences around the world.

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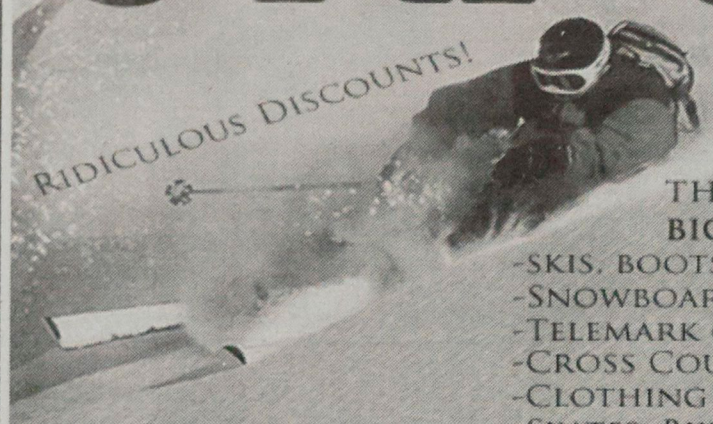

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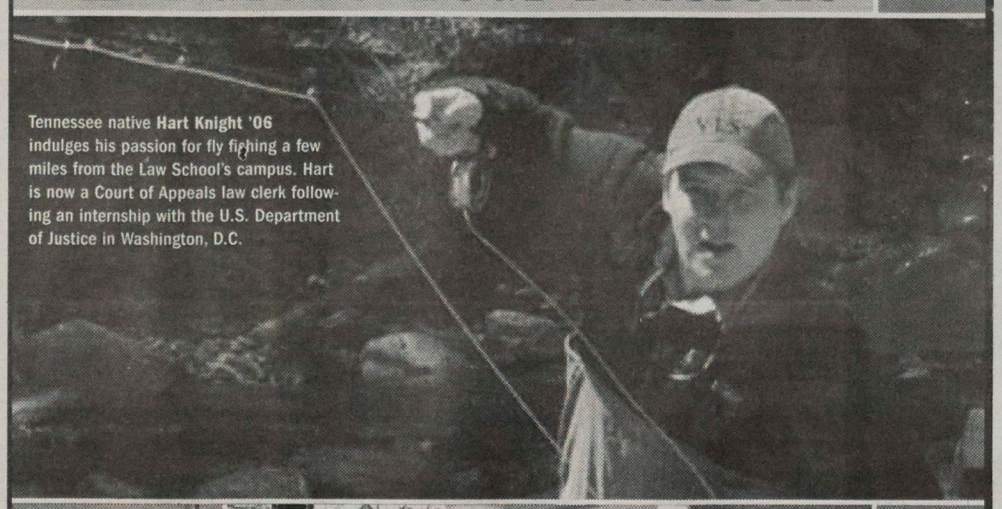

Tennessee native **Hart Knight '06** indulges his passion for fly fishing a few miles from the Law School's campus. Hart is now a Court of Appeals law clerk following an internship with the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

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Women's hockey beats three NESCAC teams

By Seth Miran
Staff Writer

The women's hockey team has been awfully busy during the past two weeks as they won three of four games, including important NESCAC victories over Williams, Hamilton and Trinity. While most folks spent Thanksgiving break fading in and out of a food coma, the women's hockey team was hard at work on its quest to win a fourth consecutive national championship.

The Panthers kicked off their season two Saturdays ago at the Plattsburgh Tournament against the host and last year's NCAA runner-up. On this night, unfortunately, the 2006 runners-up beat the 2006 champions.

Entering the third period trailing 2-0, the Panthers were unable to get on the board until 10 minutes in when Molly Vitt '09 cut the Plattsburgh lead in half. Plattsburgh quickly put the game out of reach, however, tacking on two more goals to make it 4-1. Alison Graddock '07 added a goal with 2:50 remaining, but it was too little too late as the Panthers fell by a score of 4-2. Lani Wright '10 had 31 saves between the pipes in the losing effort.

Captain Shannon Sylvester '07 attributed the loss to a variety of factors. She noted that it was on this very same ice against this very same team that the Panthers won their third consecutive national championship last year. "Maybe all those factors created a build-up of too much nervous energy among our returning players. Also, Plattsburgh is a very talented team that lost very few players from last year, and you have to give them credit for the way that they played," she said.

Assistant Captain Shannon Tarrant '07 echoed Sylvester's sentiments. "We made mistakes that most teams make in their first game of the season," she said. "Against a team as skilled as Plattsburgh, it is difficult to win if you're not playing at your peak as a team."

The Panthers were able to come back the next day and eliminate many of those errors, beating a tough Williams squad 5-1. Passes were crisper, the skating was sharper and the shooting was deadlier.

Erika Nakamura '09 started off the scoring with a goal four minutes into the first period. Tarrant scored early in the second period and Williams fired back with a goal midway through the period. Tarrant responded almost immediately with her second score of the period, and Sylvester and Vitt closed out the scoring with one goal apiece in the third. Angie Todd '08 started in goal against Williams, making 25 saves as Middlebury outshot Williams 37-26.

The Panthers carried that momentum from their victory over Williams into this past weekend's contests, eeking out a victory over a much-improved Hamilton squad on Friday before defeating Trinity rather handily.

Coach Bill Mandigo decided to tweak the team's system in the week following the Plattsburgh Tournament in an effort to generate more offense. It was apparent during the Panthers' opening NESCAC contest against Hamilton that they were still

Caroline Monninger

After stumbling in the opener, Shannon Tarrant and the Panthers are back.

adjusting to these recent changes.

An exciting third period saw Hamilton take a 3-2 lead with two power play goals only a minute apart. Graddock responded with a goal shortly thereafter, tying the game at 3-3. With 1:34 remaining, Middlebury called a timeout to draw up a play. Nakamura passed the puck behind the net to Sylvester, who brought it out in front to the slot. With a number of bodies cluttered in front, Sylvester fired a highlight-reel shot, scorching the netting in the upper right corner with 34 seconds remaining to secure a dramatic 4-3 come-from-behind victory.

Vitt continued her scoring tear with another goal against Hamilton, and last year's leading scorer Annmarie Cellino '09 added a goal and an assist of her own. Wright had 18 saves, half of which came during the crucial third period.

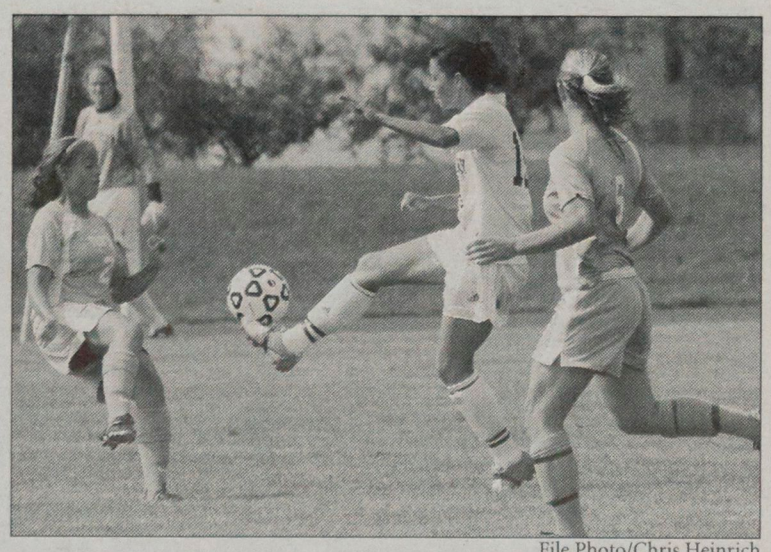
The star of the game, however, was clearly Sylvester. "She worked so hard throughout the entire game," said Tarrant. "Not only was it evident in her level of play, but it motivated everyone on the team to step her game up a notch or two."

Energized by Saturday's victory, Middlebury came out firing on all cylinders this past Sunday. The Panthers scored three first period goals en route to a 4-0 shutout of Trinity. Karen Levin '08 had two of those goals and Nakamura tallied her second score of the season. Newcomer Ashley Bairos '10 also notched her first career goal.

Abby Smith '08 started against the Bantams and earned a shutout with 13 saves, indicating that fans should expect a goalie-by-committee approach, at least for the foreseeable future.

Overall, Sunday's victory over Trinity capped another successful start to a season for the women's hockey team.

"Every time that we have stepped on the ice, we have improved some facet of our game as a team," said Sylvester. There is no reason to think that this will not continue as the Panthers take on Connecticut College and Amherst this weekend.



File Photo/Chris Heinrich

Soccer slips in *sour* sixteen

By Dave Lee
Staff Writer

After two impressive wins over Scranton and Western Connecticut, the women's soccer team's NCAA run finally came to an end in the sweet sixteen with a 1-0 loss to national powerhouse The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), last Saturday. In front of 925 spectators, the Lions proved mightier than the Panthers and used the win to springboard all the way to the championship game, where they eventually fell to Wheaton (Ill.), the winner of two of the last three national titles.

The match-up with TCNJ was hard-fought from the start. Both teams had chances to score early, yet both the opposing goalie Jessica Clarke and Middlebury netminder Adele Plunkett '09 were on top of their games and kept the score locked at 0-0. In the 27th minute, however, TCNJ took advantage of a foul that was committed 25 yards out. The Lions were rewarded with a free kick. Courtney Krol stepped-up and knocked a well-struck ball into the upper corner to take the lead.

Although the Panthers continued to pour on the offensive pressure, they were unable to break through the tough defense of the home squad. Caitrin Abshere '07, who had scored two goals in the regional final the week before, had the best chance of the day early in the second half. Her shot, however, just barely missed the target and careened off the crossbar.

Even with the team's exit from the tournament, there are a lot of reasons to celebrate the 2006 women's soccer season. Not only did the team capture the NESCAC championship in overtime against Amherst — their second title since the tournament began in 2000 — but their performance in the NCAA tournament included an upset of the third-ranked team in the country, Western Connecticut, who benefited from home field advantage. And, as the true Panther aficionado would probably point out, the women's total of 15 wins ties an all-time record for the program.

While these statistics look impressive on paper, they fail to tell the entire story. What made the women's team historic this year cannot be captured on a simple score sheet. It is the heart and soul of this tightly knit squad and their fans that will be most remembered.

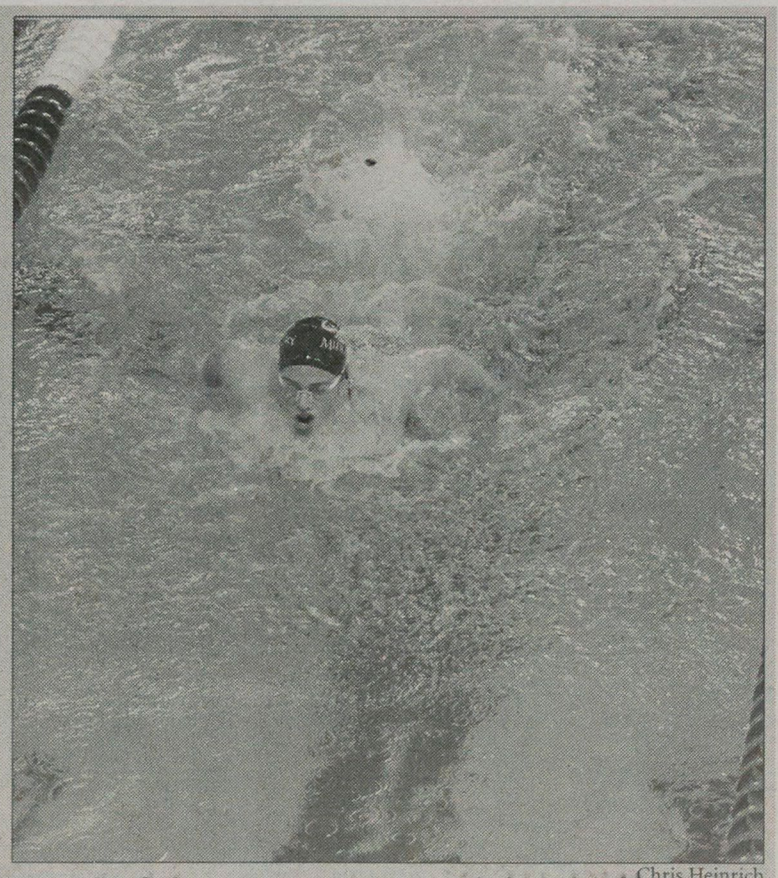
The spirit of the team produced come-from-behind, dramatic wins, while the spirit of the fans produced some tense moments.

"Multiple times this season some parents in particular have been scolded by the referee or security people for their antics," said Tri-Captain Alex Citrin '07. Loud noise from cow bells and air horns inspired the team's play, but upset some Western Connecticut parents. At that game, "the parents started to get into it with the opposing parents," said Citrin. "After we scored, one of our dads ran in front of their fans with a big sign. In the process, he broke a Western Connecticut's parent's sign and ran into the railing. Security confiscated the sign immediately."

Citrin's favorite stats go beyond the field of play. "First of all, we clearly throw the best dance parties. The themes are ridiculous," she said. "Second of all, the ten seniors on the team are, to the point of distraction, knee-weakeningly good looking." Try finding that in the stat sheet.

MIDDLEBURY POWER RANKINGS

Rank	11/16	Team	Cap's Comments
1	n/a	Swimming & Diving	Dominated the Middlebury Invitational, taking first in every event.
2	n/a	W. Hockey (3-1)	Bounced back from opening night loss with trio of NESCAC victories.
3	n/a	M. Hockey (3-1)	Outshot Potsdam 57-14. Power Rankings is thankful it does not play goalie for them.
4	n/a	W. Squash (1-0)	Wiped the court with the Camels, beating Conn. College 8-1 in the season opener.
5	n/a	W. Basketball (2-1)	Took Amherst Tournament but fell in home opener — blame it on Pepin's new scoreboard.
6	n/a	M. Baskeball (1-2)	Check my math: lost to MIT and then scored most points (120) in team history in same weekend?
7	n/a	Skiing	Today's forecast: 61 degrees. Winter scoreboard: Global warming 1 - Snow 0.
8	n/a	Indoor Track	The starting gun is January 7th. Power Rankings hopes holiday eating will not slow them down.



Chris Heinrich

If it is any consolation, basketball places third at Gordon Tournament

St. Lawrence runs by Middlebury with 17-0 a run

By Jeff Klein
Staff Writer

With both the talent and unity to make a serious run in this year's NESCAC tournament, the Middlebury men's basketball team looked to start off the 2006-2007 season on the right note. Playing three consecutive road games to open the season, the team showed stints of promising play but failed to sustain that effort in an 80-64 defeat to St. Lawrence.

The Panthers played a solid first half against the Saints, capitalizing on 42.4 percent shooting to take a 34-30 halftime lead. Middlebury increased their lead to 57-51 with 9:51 remaining, before a 17-0 run by St. Lawrence, which completely changed the momentum and put the game out of the Panthers' reach.

"Our ability to play with poise is going to be a huge factor in how successful we can be," said Captain Wil Hyatt '07 in reference to the second half meltdown. The Panthers will need to learn to maintain their poise late in games if they want to make noise in late February.

Four days earlier, the team opened its season at the Gordon College Tip-Off Tournament, where it followed an 83-73 loss to M.I.T. with a record-breaking 120-61 win over Mt. Ida. In the game against M.I.T., the Panthers found themselves in the opposite position they had been in against St. Lawrence. This time they trailed virtually throughout, as M.I.T. built an early ten-point lead it would never relinquish. The lead grew to 17 by halftime, and Middlebury could narrow the deficit only back to ten points for the final margin. Despite the loss, the Panthers did exhibit a balanced scoring attack. Ben Rudin '09 led the way with 16 points, and three other Panthers scored in double digits.

In the consolation game against Mt. Ida, Middlebury's team play and balanced scoring was again evident, but this time they provided the desired result as the Panthers roared to a 59-point victory. Every Panther scored in this lopsided contest, and the 120 points is a new school record, topping the 117-point efforts by the teams of '88 and '60. As indicated by the score, the Panther offense was unstoppable, with the Panthers using their superior talent, depth and transition game to overwhelm Mt. Ida.

"The Mt. Ida game was our system working to perfection," said Ben Ehrlich '09. "We caused turnovers and turned them into quick points, and we shot the lights out. With our depth, we look to wear teams down that only play seven or eight guys."

Despite the offensive explosion, Hyatt still sees room for improvement. "We have been able to run in spurts," he said, "but we need to be more committed to rebounding the ball in order to be a more effective fast-break team."

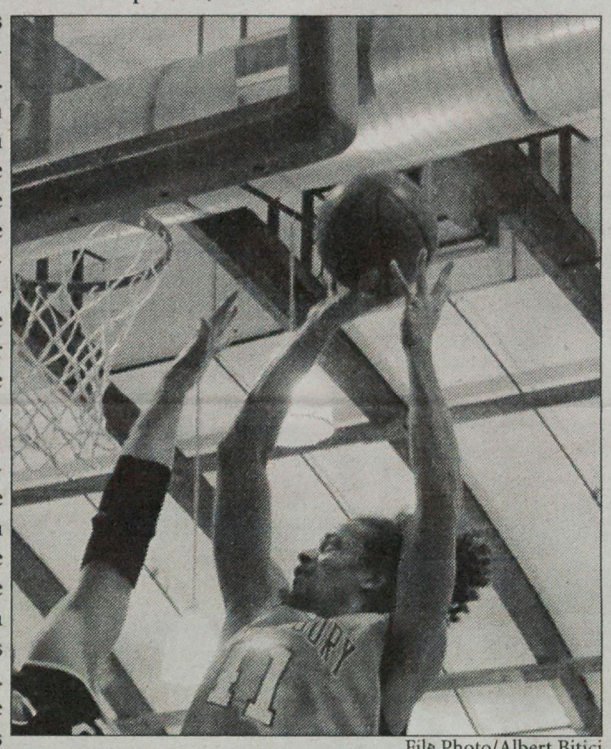
The Panthers have emerged from their first three games of the season with mixed results and attitudes. While the team knows it could have performed better in the Gordon Tournament and against St. Lawrence, it also understands that it is too early to panic.

"Adversity introduces us to ourselves as a team," said Ehrlich. "We go through it together and become stronger because of it."

As the Panthers know all too well from last season, where they started 7-0 before stumbling to a 12-12 finish and missing the NESCAC tournament, early season success can mean relatively little.

"It's not about where you start — it's about where you finish," Ehrlich said. "We want to finish at the top of the NESCAC."

Middlebury returned to action Tuesday at Castleton State and plays its home opener tonight in the Pepin Gymnasium at 7:30 p.m. against Rensselaer, who just beat Williams 64-57 on Nov. 26.



File Photo/Albert Bitici
Thompson '07 led Midd with 14 points against the Saints.

Chris Bohorquez

Midd not in its prime at the PrimeLink Shoot-Out

Continued from page 24

snipe. Later in the second period Gilchrist and Mason Graddock '09 scored within a span of 27 seconds.

"I definitely did not expect to score the first goal," said Seavy, who was playing in his first collegiate game. "I didn't know the puck went in until Charlie [Townsend '10] tackled me — that kind of gave me the clue that it went in."

The following afternoon, Middlebury, dressed with a blast from the past in their present-day away white sweaters, skated by Connecticut College 2-1. For most of the game the Panthers were on thin ice, but goalie Ross Cherry '08 saved the day.

Cherry made two back-breaking stops that broke the Camels' back. The first came on a short-handed breakaway attempt by forward Trevor Bradley in the first period. Cherry appeared to give Bradley an opening but immediately closed it as he sprawled to his left and swallowed the puck. The second came in the second period with the score tied 1-1, as Ben Eischen came in on Cherry all alone, but the result was the same.

As in Friday's game with Tufts, the majority of the offense came from the first-year class. John Sullivan '10 scored both goals, celebrating with a chainsaw-like fist pump on the second, which proved to be the game-winner.

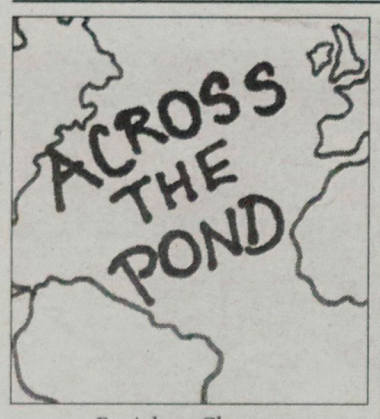
Sullivan would also score the first goal against Plattsburgh State six days later. But there at the PrimeLink Great Northern Shoot Out, Middlebury fell 4-2. Despite out-shooting the Cardinals 23-19, the Panthers could not turn on more red lights than their red-mascot counterparts. With an average of 6.3 pounds more per player, Plattsburgh threw around their weight and lifted themselves to the championship game, where they fell to Norwich 4-2.

Middlebury regrouped, though, and routed Potsdam 7-1 in the third-place game. Kyle Koziara '09 recorded a hat trick on three assists from Jamie McKenna '09 and the Panthers took advantage of Potsdam's 19 penalties.

Beaney's Babies will get a rematch with Plattsburgh when they travel across the Vt.-N.Y. border on Dec. 8. There will be no more home games from now until 2007, but eight teams will come to the Old Town in January.

Editors' Picks

Questions of the week:	*Geoff Homer*	*James Kerrigan*	*Jeff Patterson*
Which team will hit more three-pointers when the Panthers' men's basketball team hosts Rensselaer tonight?	RPI They beat Williams and, last time I checked, Williams was pretty good. They have attempted 238 treys this season (through four games) while we have taken 62 (in three games.)	RPI Rensselaer loves the perimeter game and will not deviate from its early-season strategy.	MIDDLEBURY Even though RPI's Clay Hadley is a .667 percent shooter from behind the arc this year, he will lay a lot of bricks in Pepin Gymnasium.
Which women's hockey player will score the most goals this weekend, when Conn. College and Amherst come to town?	SHANNON SYLVESTER The senior captain will lead by example in the Panthers' first weekend at Chip Kenyon Arena.	ERIKA NAKAMURA She finished last year with 13 goals in her first season and will surpass that total this year.	ANNEMARIE CELLINO She scored a hat trick last year against Conn. College and added another goal against Amherst. Look for a repeat performance.
Will Red Sox slugger Manny Ramirez be traded before pitchers and catchers report to spring training?	YES I hate to think about it. But if it's gonna happen, this is the year. I just hope Theo & Crew get a strong bat to replace him.	YES It was tough to imagine a Red Sox pitching staff without Pedro and an infield without Nomar, but such is the nature of the game nowadays.	NO It would take an entire season to teach a left fielder to play The Wall as well as #24 does.
Record:	**11-14 (.440)**	**9-16 (.360)**	**11-14 (.440)**



By Adam Clayton

England 's first clash of the contenders occurred Sunday Nov. 26 when Manchester United battled Chelsea to a lively 1-1 draw. While the match presented an opportunity for both teams to establish bragging rights as mid-season favorites for the league crown, it also sparked the bi-annual mind games between managers Sir Alex Ferguson and Jose Mourinho. Their ability to whip the media into a frenzy and stoke even the mild fan into a passionate display of club pride makes their American counterparts look positively amateurish.

Twenty years into Ferguson's Manchester United dynasty, his relationship with the British press continues to alternate between outright hostility and veiled disdain, instilling an us-against-them attitude in everyone from his players to the boardroom executives. When he isn't imposing a ban on sources he considers unfavorable, he is carefully circulating propaganda to unsettle the opposition. Last week, his star forward Cristiano Ronaldo, himself no stranger to deception, taunted Chelsea by claiming that the match represented Manchester United's fourth most important rivalry.

Despite Ferguson's mastery of the media, he pales beside the genius of Mourinho, the self-declared "special one," who competes only with God (not my assertion) for absolute authority in all matters related to his football club.

In spite of lacking a football pedigree to rival others in the game and entering professional football at 29, Mourinho has managed to transform the expectations for management and football in general. Following Chelsea's defeat to Barcelona in last season's Champions League, Mourinho falsely alleged that referee Anders Frisk met with his opponent during the halftime. Frisk later received death threats relating to Mourinho's claims and was forced to prematurely retire from football.

Chelsea now find themselves in an enviable position — every person charged with officiating Chelsea games is intensely aware of failing to meet Mourinho's personal standards. While it would perhaps be overly cynical to assume that Mourinho intended such a response from crazed Chelsea fans, death threats also followed Mourinho's outrage at the removal of his two goalkeepers due to injury suffered from Reading 's forwards.

The message to the referee was clear when Mourinho declared that he expected every call in Sunday's clash to "be correct."

After the Manchester United match, Mourinho relentlessly pursued any advantage possible, claiming that the draw benefited Chelsea. With Chelsea still three points behind Manchester in the standings, the Premiership is up for grabs. Two things are for certain, Mourinho will use unlimited Russian oil money and he will continue to dominate the back pages for decades to come.

Women's XC excited about fourth NCAA title

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

down simply was not an option," said Krieg. "Each person ran for Middlebury, not for herself."

Five of Middlebury's top six runners were seniors, but their impact was not limited to speedy running and strong results. They brought an extra element to the table all season long.

"Having five seniors on a cross country team is a coach's dream," said Aldrich. "There is no way to underestimate the importance of their leadership and contribution to the team. In endurance sports, it takes years to develop the strength and base to be able to compete at a high level. [Archard and Giddings] had been on a National Championship team as first-years and knew what to expect. They were both instrumental in getting our team focused on the task ahead of them."

Middlebury, who finished fourth behind Amherst, Tufts and Williams at the NESCAC Championships in late October, stepped up at the right time for several reasons and finished first in a bigger race.

"I think everything just came together for this race," said Krieg. "Terry designs our training so that we peak at the end of the season. Also, realizing that we might actually win was so motivating."

Ted Sullivan

Archard '07 and the Panther cross country team battled mud and the nation's best teams, but still came out on top.

The men's race preceded the women's and the runners sufficiently tore up the course, turning it into a quagmire, as Aldrich pointed out. One of those course-killers was Middlebury's top runner, Jimmy Butcher '08, who earned an individual entry to the race based on his impressive finish at the NCAA Regional. Butcher finished 34th out of 280 and earned All-American honors for his effort.

Coach Aldrich was also honored by his peers as the D-III women's cross country coach of the year — his fourth such honor — for leading his harriers to another NCAA Championsip win.

FROM 1995 — WHEN THE NESCAC FIRST ALLOWED TEAMS TO PLAY IN NCAA POSTSEASON TOURNAMENTS — TO THE PRESENT DAY, MIDDLEBURY HAS CAPTURED A TOTAL OF 27 D-III NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Men's Hockey (8) — '95, '96, '97, '98, '99, '04, '05, '06
Women's Hockey (5) — '00, '01, '04, '05, '06
Women's Lacrosse (5) — '97, '99, '01, '02, '04
Women's Cross Country — '00, '01, '03, '06
Men's Lacrosse (3) — '00, '01, '02
Men's Tennis (1) — '04
Field Hockey (1) — '98

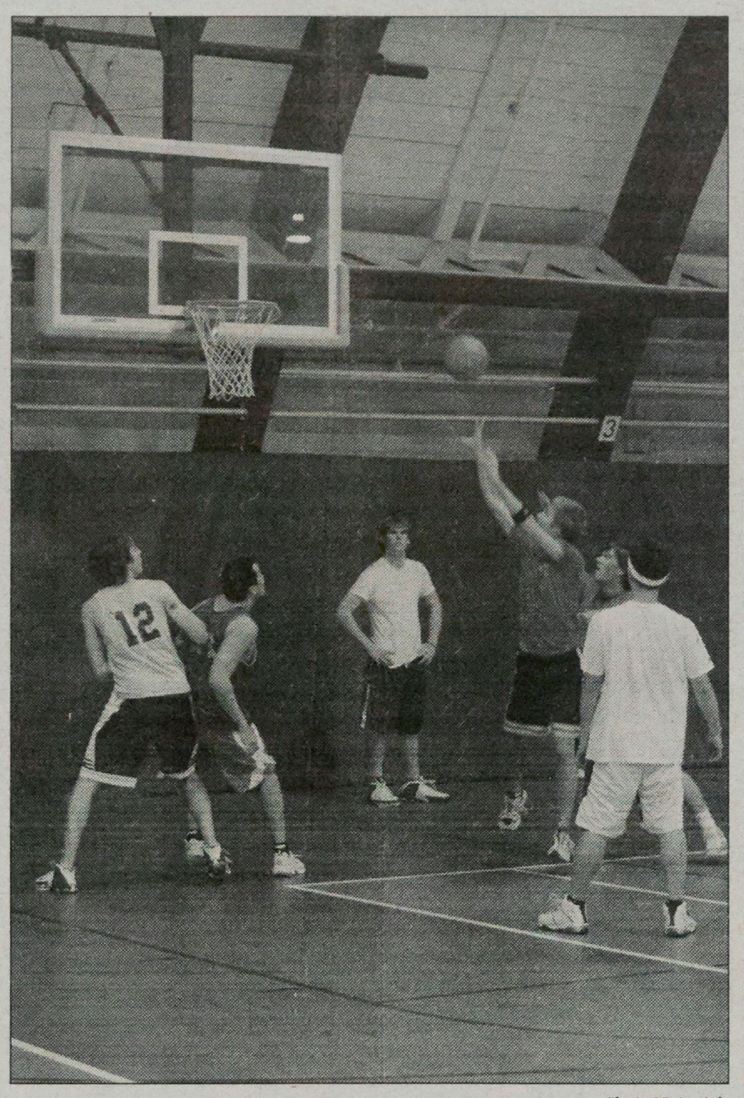
Jeff Patterson

BY THE NUMBERS

By Jeff Patterson, Sports Editor

superior80	Noun that covers the swimming and diving teams, men's basketball team and women's squash team on the weekend of Nov. 18 and 19. Tony Romo and USC fit it too.
1	Place finish for the Middlebury swimmers and divers in all 17 events during the Middlebury Invitational.
115	More points won by the women's squash team in their 8-1 victory over Connecticut College at the Dartmouth Invitational.
15	Number of basketball players on the men's team to score in the Panthers' 120-61 victory over Mt. Ida.
14	Number of basketball players on the men's team to grab at least one rebound in the Panthers' 120-61 victory over Mt. Ida.
12	Number of basketball players on the men's team to grab a loose ball and record a steal in their 120-61 victory over Mt. Ida.

INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL — NOTHING BUT NET

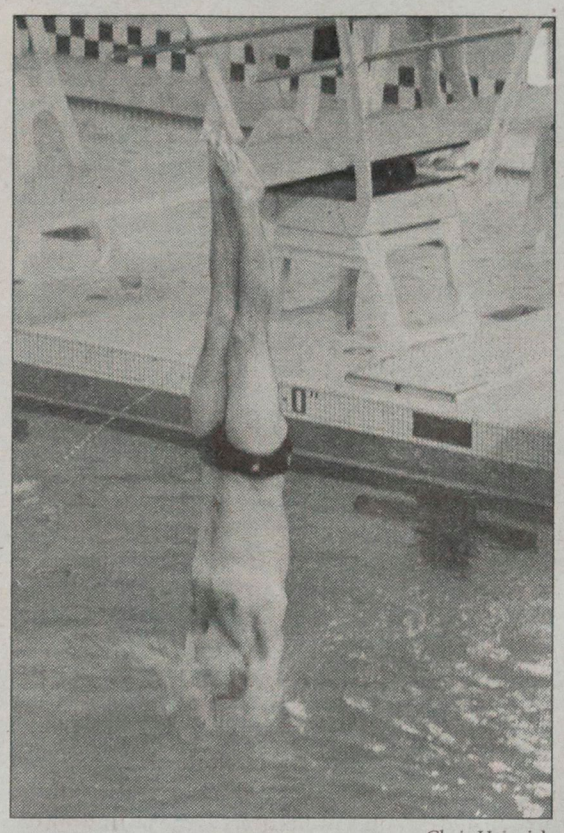


Chris Heinrich

Three on three basketball is well under way. The playoffs start next week and the desirable IM champion tee-shirts will soon be up for grabs.

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

Michael Young '07 dives into some *Campus* questions



Chris Heinrich

By James Kerrigan
Sports Editor

Senior captain Michael Young spent more time pacing the pool's perimeter during the Nov. 18 Middlebury Invitational than he did swimming and diving, but his presence still made a difference. Equipped with crocs, a towel and an encouraging voice, Young helped the men's and women's swimming and diving teams sweep the event and raise expectations for the remainder of the winter season.

The Middlebury Invitational featured primarily swimming events, but the one time the diver did gracefully enter the pool, he came out a winner. In the mixed 100 yard 4 X 25 diver relay, Young, along with Brooks Farrar '10, Claire Gogolen '08 and Susan Read '09, took the title with a time of 50.38.

The first event of the season lacked a diving element, but such will not be the case for the rest of the season. Young and other divers will be judged on both one and three meter dives.

Gogolen, Young's teammate on the mixed diver relay, knew what it took to win the event on Nov. 18, but does she know what Young is up to outside of the Natatorium? Samantha Rivera '07, one of Young's LaForce suitemates, might have an advantage in the Young's-hygiene category, but does she know what it is like to be with the diver in the pool and inside the locker room?

Teammate vs. Roommate

	Young	Gogolen	Rivera
How tall is the highest board or cliff that you have ever jumped off?	A 13 meter bridge	10 meters (.5)	13 meters (1)
What is your most reliable dive?	Front 1.5 with a twist	Inward 1.5 on 1m (.75)	Back flip with a twist (.5)
What is your favorite board game?	Cranium	Twister (0)	Cranium (1)
What is your Thanksgiving dish of choice?	Grandma's hasbrowns	Pumpkin pie (0)	Grandma's stuffing (.5)
Most cherished article of clothing?	Sammy (quick-drying towel)	Hat from Russia (0)	His sammy (1)
Any nicknames?	Mikey, or Mishka-Pishka	Mikey (.5)	Mike and Misha (.25)
On a Sunday morning, do you walk around in socks or slippers?	Slippers	Slippers (1)	Slippers (1)
final score...		**2.75**	**5.25**

Like New York Yankees closer Mariano Rivera, Samantha Rivera was dominant when it mattered most. The roommates kicked off the winter season with a decisive win as Rivera set the bar high for future contestants

Young's grandmother appears to be the star of Thanksgiving as several mentions of her outstanding cooking were referenced. Additionally, Young noted that his grandmother makes a mean leftover sandwich on the Friday after Thanksgiving complete with cranberry sauce and stuffing. Hopefully the extra servings from the holiday will not affect Young's performance in the air or the size of his splash.

Young affirmed that Thursdays are his favorite day, but he will be looking forward doing most of his work in the pool on weekends for the rest of the winter.

Rivera also correctly identified Young's most frequently played song on iTunes — "When you Sleep" by Cake. While success at the Middlebury Invitational was a cake-walk, that will surely change in the near future.

Next up for Young, Gogolen and the rest of the squad is a meet against Amherst, who beat both the men and the women last year, on Saturday at 1 p.m.

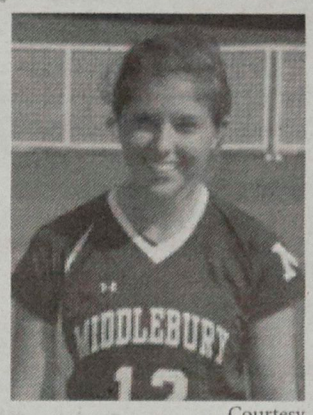
PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Result	Comments
Nov. 19	W. Squash	Conn. College	8-1 W	Middlebury records five straight-set wins and two more by default.
Nov. 24 Nov. 25	M. Hockey	Plattsburgh St. Potsdam	4-2 L 7-1 W	The Panthers converted five of 16 power plays to bounce back from their first loss of the season.
Nov. 25 Nov. 26	W. Hockey	Hamilton Trinity	4-3 W 4-0 W	Women collect two tough road wins and get back to their winning ways.
Nov. 19 Nov. 21	M. Basketball	Mt. Ida St. Lawrence	120-61 W 80-64 L	The team is undefeated when it scores more than 119 points in a game.
Nov. 19 Nov. 21	W. Basketball	U-Mass Dart. Norwich	72-49 W 80-64 L	Women lose at home by the same score as the men do on the road.
Nov. 18	Swim & Dive	Midd. Invit.	success	The Natatorium scoreboard posted Middlebury at the top in every event.

SPORTS BRIEFS

BY GEOFF HOMER, SPORTS EDITOR

Farrell named All-American

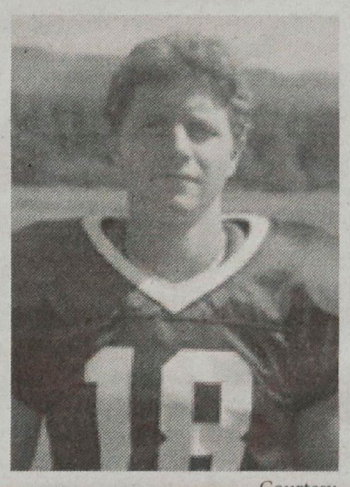


Courtesy

Lacey Farrell '08 was selected by the NFHCA (National Field Hockey Coaches Association) as a second-team All-American athlete. Farrell was one of the cornerstones of the Panther's success this season, which included a trip to the NESCAC Championship game and a berth in an NCAA Regional game following the Panthers' 14-4 record this fall.

Farrell also earned first-team All-Region and All-NESCAC honors this fall. She finished tied-for-third on the team with six goals over the season and ranked third with five assists. Farrell played in all 18 of the Panthers' games this season, and was only one of three Panthers to start in every game. As a midfielder, she also contributed on defense, and helped the Panthers earn six shutouts and allow 1.26 goals per game.

Hauschka and Ryan honored



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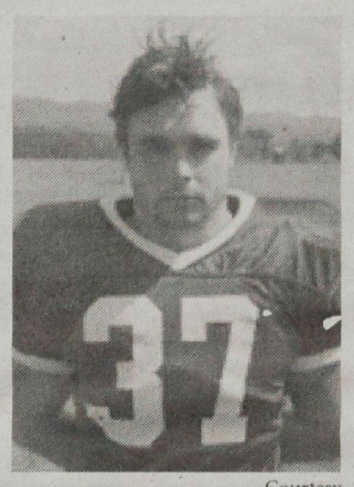


Courtesy

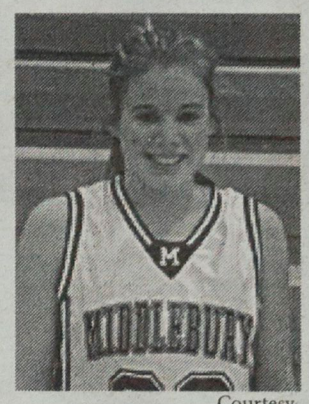
Steve Hauschka '07, a kicker for the Middlebury football team, has been named a District I Academic All-American by the College Sports Information Directors Association (CoSIDA). The neuroscience major has a 3.54 GPA through the spring 2006 semester and will now be placed on a ballot for national recognition.

Hauschka, along with classmate Kevin Ryan '07, was also selected to the New England Football Writers Division II/III All-New England Team. The seniors led the Panthers to their best ever finish while the two have been students at the college, carrying Middlebury to a 6-2 record and a third place in the league standings.

Hauschka earned first-team honors after being selected for the second-team the previous two seasons. He broke the Middlebury single-season record with 10 field goals this fall, which helped him set Middlebury's all-time record of 20 career field goals. As a punter, he was second in the NESCAC with a 37.9 yard average. Hauschka finished his career tied for third in the Middlebury record book with a 36.5 yard average.

Ryan received first-team selection after also earning second-team honors the two previous seasons. He had a tremendous year on the defensive line in which he led the nation with 15.5 sacks in eight games. With 21 sacks he broke the Middlebury and the NESCAC single-season sack record and ends his career tied for first with Paul Shull '00.

Johnson wins Amherst MVP



Courtesy

Emily Johnson '09 was selected as the NESCAC player of the week following her tremendous efforts in which Middlebury won its only two games at the Amherst Tournament. Johnson scored 45 points over the weekend and averaged 3.5 rebounds per game. She scored 20 points in the Panthers' 69-63 victory over Piedmont and was 12 for 13 at the free-throw line. She followed up her efforts with a career-high 25 point outburst in Middlebury's 72-49 victory over UMASS-Dartmouth. For her efforts at the tournament in which she shot .667 from the floor and .889 from the free-throw line, Johnson was named tournament MVP.

Unsung Hero of the Week

Ashley Barron '09 (Women's Basketball)
Barron has averaged 3.7 assists and 2.3 steals in the Panthers' first three games, leading Middlebury to a 2-1 record that included winning the Amherst Invit.

Sports

Ted Sullivan

Division-III Coach of the Year, Terry Aldrich lifts the NCAA Championship plaque as his runners celebrate.

XC crosses off NCAA title from its to do list

By James Kerrigan
Sports Editor

Muddy conditions in West Chester, Ohio slowed the overall pace but could not stop the Middlebury women's cross country team from winning its fourth NCAA Championship on Nov. 18.

In the closest finish in the history of the Division III NCAA Cross Country Championships, the Middlebury women edged out NESCAC foe Amherst 144-145 and gave the College its 27th national title in the past 12 years. The scores were posted at 12:45 p.m., but the win was not official until the Panthers waited-out the standard 30-minute protest period. No teams filed a complaint and the Panthers had the title.

Alexandra Krieg '09 — who finished just behind seniors Andrea Giddings and Erin Archard in most races this season – saved her best race for last and finished 8th overall to lead the Panthers.

"Although the weather was clear, the course was extremely wet and became increasingly muddy as people ran on it," said Krieg, who was the highest placing underclassmen at the NCAA event. "It felt like running through wet sand because the mud was so deep. Each step took extra energy."

With mud six to eight inches deep in some sections of the course, every stride was grueling and the results showed. Willamette's Sarah Zerzan, the individual winner at the NCAAs, recorded an average mile time of 6:16 a pace that was 30 seconds slower than the winning time at the NCAA regionals.

Coach Terry Aldrich, who has been at Middlebury for 32 years, has seen hundreds of races, but went so far as to say, "it was the most horrendous footing I have ever seen for a race."

The conditions were not the dominating story at Wilmington College on Saturday, though. The Panthers' performance was what everyone was talking about. Giddings finished 25th overall while Archard placed 29th. Those three earned All-American honors for their high finishes. Claire Shultz '07 and Makely Lyon '07 rounded out Middlebury's 144 point value by finishing 54th and 68th respectively, which helped the women squeeze by Amherst.

"I think each runner on our team felt that she was part of something larger; it didn't matter if one of us was tired, because slowing

See Women's XC, page 26

After two wins at the Chip, Panthers have a chip on their shoulder (pads)

By Jeff Patterson
Sports Editor

Countdown: Three … two … one. Blastoff. The Middlebury men's hockey team launched the 2006-2007 season scoring three goals in the first period, two in the second and one in the third on Oct. 17, to beat Tufts 6-2. Hockey is back at Chip Kenyon '85 Arena and many people, not just those seated (and standing) in the spirited student section, are having a blast.

"It's good to get [back] in front of the crowd, in front of the school. It's a lot of fun," said Brett Shirreffs '07, who celebrated both his birthday and opening night by scoring a goal on the power play.

Although Shirreffs is a veteran of the team, it was mostly the younger players, especially the first-years, who led the Panthers to victory in their first game of the season. "They had a big impact on the score sheet," said Shirreffs. "We've had a lot of injuries already, so they've stepped in and contributed a lot. It's good to have them around."

Middlebury was around the net for most of the first period, out-shooting the Jumbos 14-3, but could not find the back of it until the end of the frame, when Ryan Seavy '10 scored on the power play with 5:17 remaining.

"We might have been a little nervous at the start when we came out," said Mickey Gilchrist '08, "but we kept skating, we kept our feet moving and in the end everything started to connect and go in the net."

Wearing previous Captain Jeff Smith's '06 number 26 jersey, Seavy played more like a savvy veteran than a first-year novice. His first career goal jump-started a proficient Panther attack that forced Tufts goalie Issa Azat out of the game. Immediately after Seavy's linemates pig-piled on top of him, the Panthers piled on goal after goal. Shirreffs knocked the water bottle off of Azat's net and Mack Cummins '09 answered 26 seconds later, while the student section was still in the middle of singing "Cheer Boys Cheer" for Shirreffs'

See Midd not, page 25

Chris Bohorquez

Ryan Seavey '10 and the first-years led the Panthers in their first game.

Middlebury in H_2O was hard 2 outswim

By Allison Ortega
Staff Writer

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams opened their season, as they hostedthe Middlebury Invitational on Nov. 18 in the Natatorium. Coach Peter Solomon used the event, normally held in February, to invite Keene State, Gordon State, St. Michael's and UMass-Dartmouth, teams that the Panthers would not otherwise face. The teams were invited as a warm-up for racing and to gauge times as his team heads into its NESCAC-heavy schedule.

The invitational consisted of mainly relay events, including some unconventional races like the 400-yard butterfly relay and the mixed 100-yard 4 x 25 freestyle relay for divers. Despite the uncommon set-up, both the Panthers' men's and women's teams were dominant, claiming victory in all 17 events.

The 500-yard freestyle was the one exception to the invitational's relay format. On the women's side, Sara Cowie '08, who set the pool record in the same event last year, cruised to victory in 5:14.81. First-year Katie Soja finished second behind Cowie, and Middlebury showed superior depth by claiming the top six places overall. Kevin O'Rourke '09 easily won the event for the men in 5:01.67 with a time nearly seven seconds faster than second-place finisher Kyle Uricchio of Keene State.

The Invitational served as a precursor to this weekend's highly anticipated dual meet with Amherst. Last year the Lord Jeffs narrowly defeated both the men's and women's teams during the regular season. The women, however, found redemption during the NESCAC Championships by edging Amherst to finish second overall. This season the swimmers expect another close match-up.

"Amherst has always been a swimming rival and this year isn't any different," said Whitney Thomas '07.5. "The meet against Amherst will show us the depth of our talent and preparation as a team and as individuals. As Coach Solomon likes to impress upon us, this meet will come down to the third and fourth place finishes."

With the strong start at the Middlebury Invitational, the Panther have already taken one step in the right direction towards having a successful season.

"It was a good way for the team to come together. Considering how fast we went in the first meet, it is a good indication of how strong the team is going to be this year," said Cowie.

Chris Heinrich

Swimming and diving dominated their invitational, winning all 17 events.

THIS WEEK IN SPORTS

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM: MICHAEL YOUNG
Who knows the senior diver better? page 27

GAMES TO WATCH
Men's Basketball vs. Rensselaer, Nov. 30 at 7:30
Women's Hockey vs. Conn. College, Dec. 1 at 7:00

POWER RANKINGS:
See where each winter sport stands, page 24